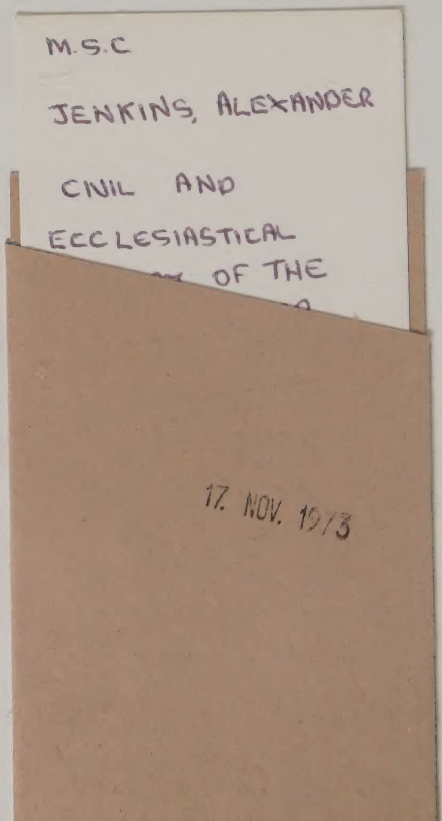
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feature in all our educational establishments. Professor Freeman has well summarised the history of Exeter in the words, "A typical English city, alike in its greatness and in its practical fall from greatness, but more than an English city in its direct connexion with two states of things more ancient than the English name in Britain—the city alike of Briton, Roman, and Englishman, the one great prize of the Christian Saxon, the city where Jupiter gave way to Christ, but where Christ never gave way to Woden. British Caerwisc, Roman Isca, West Saxon Exeter may well stand first on our roll-call of English cities. Others can boast of a fuller share of modern greatness; none other can trace up a life so unbroken to so remote a past."

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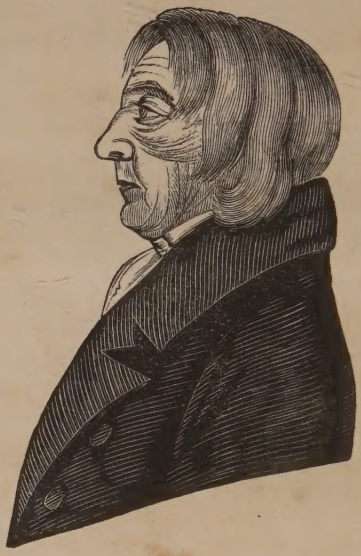

ALEXANDER JENKINS,

AUTHOR OF THE HISTORY OF EXETER.

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JENKINS'S

CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL

HISTORY

OF THE

CITY OF EXETER

AND ITS ENVIRONS,

FROM THE TIME OF THE ROMANS TO THE YEAR 1806;

COMPRISING

THE RELIGION AND IDOLATROUS SUPERSTITION OF THE BRITONS, SAXONS, AND DANES;

THE RISE AND PROGRESS OF CHRISTIANITY IN THE WESTERN COUNTIES OF ENGLAND;

WITH

A CATALOGUE OF THE BISHOPS OF THE DIOCESE,

From the first establishment of the See in this County;

ALSO, A GENERAL AND PAROCHIAL

SURVEY AND DESCRIPTION

OF THE

CHURCHES, AND OTHER PLACES OF DIVINE WORSHIP, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, INSTITUTIONS, ANTIQUITIES, GOVERNMENT, AND PROSPECTS;

TOGETHER WITH

AN ANNUAL LIST OF MAYORS AND BAILIFFS,

&c. &c.;

EMBELLISHED WITH

FOURTEEN ENGRAVINGS OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS,

AND A PORTRAIT OF THE AUTHOR.

SECOND EDITION.

EXETER:

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY W. NORTON, 247, HIGH-STREET;

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INTRODUCTION.

EXETER, the Capital of *Devonshire,* is a city of great antiquity and fame; and, to use the words of an author of the last century,* "*remarkable for its loyalty, and zeal for monarchy, amidst all revolutions:*" it is situated about eight miles north of the *British Channel,* in latitude 54° 44' north and longitude 3° 30' west from *London.*

The city and suburbs, including the adjoining parishes of *St. Thomas* and *St. Leonard,* which are part of the county of *Devon,* are nearly two miles in length, and a mile and quarter in breadth, where the buildings are contiguous; and contain about three thousand two hundred and seventy-six houses, and twenty-one thousand nine hundred and twenty-four inhabitants; † these are divided into four wards or hundreds, in which are nineteen parishes and three precincts, which are extra-parochial; a Cathedral and eighteen parish Churches; three Presbyterian, one Anabaptist,

* *Ogilvie.*

† As it would be impracticable to number the inhabitants precisely (it having been several times attempted without success) I have endeavoured to calculate them according to the rules laid down by *Sir William Petty,* in his *Discourse on Political Arithmetic,* and have allowed seven persons for every inhabited house. Whoever is acquainted with the city, and considers the number of families which are crowded together in single houses, in the back streets and lanes, will, I hope, think with me, that I have rather under than over rated them. In the year 1800 the legislature ordered a general account to be taken of the number of inhabitants and houses throughout the kingdom, when the parochial returns for this city (exclusive of the parishes of *St. Thomas* and *St. Leonard*) were two thousand eight hundred and thirty-six houses, inhabited by three thousand nine hundred and forty-seven families, containing seven thousand three hundred and four males and ten thousand and eighty-four females, in all seventeen thousand three hundred and eighty-eight inhabitants. But this return was made at the height of a long and bloody war, when the staple trade of the city (the manufacture of woollen) was at its lowest ebb, and great numbers of its male inhabitants serving their country in his Majesty's fleets and armies, and others seeking for labour in distant places, which occasioned the great disproportion between the number of males and females, who are, according to their births, nearly equal; and according to the former calculation would make this city to contain twenty thousand and fifty-two souls.

one Quakers', and two Methodist Meeting-houses; a Roman Catholic Chapel, and a Jews' Synagogue; all which, together with the other public buildings, will be fully described in their proper places.

The pleasant site of the city, on the declivity of a hill open to the south and west, encircled with beautiful views of the surrounding country, where undulating hills, vales, woods, and water, interspersed with churches, villages, and gentlemen's seats, terminated by the brown and lofty heights of *Haldon*, &c. is truly picturesque, and attracts the notice of strangers.

The river *Exe* is navigable for vessels of one hundred and fifty tons burthen, even to the city, as, by a canal cut through the marshes, and by the help of sluices or locks, they are towed up to the quay. The tide anciently flowed beyond the city; but the navigation was ruined by one of the Earls of *Devon*, from a malicious pique for a pretended insult done him, (which circumstance will be discussed hereafter;) and there is great reason to believe that the tide once covered all the marshes and low grounds from the city to *Cowick*, as its name seems to express;* for the whole strata of the ground between appears to be formed of soft clay and river gravel in alternate layers; and further, the situation of the water-port (still plainly to be seen in the city wall, at the bottom of *Rock-lane*) together with ancient traditions, which inform us that ships and boats were admitted by the tide into the city through the said port, seems to strengthen greatly the conjecture, if we can doubt the veracity of an ancient historian, *William* of *Malmsbury*, who says that "the fleet of King *Ethelred* being defeated, in the year 1001, by the *Danes*, a residue took refuge within the walls of *Excester*." †

* *Ick* is a *British* word, and signifies a river creek, i. e. cow creek, or watering place.—*Borlase's Vocabulary.*

† Other reasons might be given to strengthen the former hypothesis, but I shall only mention one more by way of note:—A few years since, in digging for the foundation of an Ice-house, at the bottom of the *Friars*, after having cut through the common meat earth, a bed of hard clay was found, then river gravel; at twelve feet deep, rubbish mixed with oyster and cockle shells, then river gravel again; and at sixteen feet deep was found the half of an horse shoe, much rusted and injured by length of time, and which is now in the possession of *Mr. Drewe*, late of *Exeter*, but now of *Topsham*. I do not easily acquiesce with improbabilities, but I have heard it asserted that an anchor has been dug up in the marsh near *Cowley Bridge*.

The city has been greatly improved of late years by new buildings, and is plentifully supplied with water; some from wells, and some brought through leaden pipes, from springs collected together about half a mile from the city. The river water, by means of an engine, is forced through wooden pipes into most parts of the city, (notwithstanding its elevated situation) and each inhabitant may be supplied with it at a certain rate per annum.

The wholesomeness of the water, salubrity of the air, pleasantness of the situation, and plenty of the markets, have occasioned the city to be much noticed by our ancient writers. *William* of *Malmsbury*, who lived in the reign of King *Stephen*, and wrote his History, A. D. 1154, speaks thus of it:—"By reason of its stateliness, the wealth of its Citizens, and the great resort of strangers, it so abounds with all kinds of merchandize that nothing is wanting that can be reckoned useful or necessary." *Leland* also, who wrote his Itinerary in the reign of *Henry* VIII. calls it "a pleasant and beautiful city, strongly fortified both by nature and art, full of inhabitants, and abounding in all the necessaries of life."

It is impossible, at this distance of time, to fix the era of its first foundation; but its British names will sufficiently testify that it was a city of note even with the ancient Britons.

The inhabitants of *Devon* and *Cornwall* were the *Danmonii*, a people differing in their manners and customs from the other tribes of the *Britons*, and are supposed by many authors, * both ancient and modern, to be *aborigines*, and to have migrated from *Armenia*, in the greater *Asia*, not long after the confusion of tongues at *Babel*.

It is sufficiently clear that the *Danmonii* were not ignorant of agriculture and commerce, from the trade they carried on with their tin and other commodities with the *Phœnician*, *Carthaginian*, and *Greek* merchants; and after them with the *Gauls* and *Romans:* this is fully mentioned by *Herodotus*, *Polybius*, *Strabo*, and other authors.

That tin was more abundant in *Devon* than *Cornwall* is clearly demonstrated by the farming of the coinage in the reign of King *John*, when that of *Devon* was farmed for one hundred pounds,

* *Bishop Gibson's Saxon Chronicle*, printed at *Oxford*, 1692, (the *Saxon Chronicle* was written by a Monk of *Lincoln*, sometime after the Conquest) says that the original inhabitants of *Devon* and *Cornwall* came from *Armenia*.

while that of *Cornwall* produced only one hundred marks; and as the greatest part of the tin was found in *Dartmoor* and its neighbourhood, at no very great distance from *Exeter*, it may naturally be concluded that the neighbouring country must have been very populous; and that the *Danmonii*, having a mercantile intercourse with the *Phœnicians* and *Greeks*, learned from them the principles of mechanics and building, as well as other arts; to say nothing of the colonies, which, according to their custom, they settled in most places they traded to; and therefore it cannot be doubted (from the many *Phœnician* and *Greek* words mixed in the *British* language) that they settled a colony in this part of the island.*

The inhabitants of *Devon* therefore certainly had their cities and towns; † and the name of *Pen-Caer*, ‡ (a *British* name for *Exeter)* which signifies the head or chief city, plainly points out the capital of the *Danmonii;* and *Caer-esk*, the city on the waters; *Caer-ruth*, the city on the red soil; and *Penhulgoile*, the prosperous chief town in the wood, § strongly prove that *Exeter* must have been a city of great note, even in the most early ages.

* *Richard* of *Cirencester*, who wrote a Chronicle in the fourteenth century, places the first colony in the south-west part of *Devon*, about A. M. 3000; and says a colony of the *Belgæ*, from *Gallia*, about A. M. 3650, arrived in *Britain*, and possessed themselves of *Kent*, *Sussex*, *Hampshire*, and *Devonshire*. *Mr. Whitaker*, in his *History of Manchester*, informs us that after the *Belgæ* had been thus settled two hundred and fifty years, *Diviaticus* came over from *Gaul*, and brought a large reinforcement of the former, and subdued the remainder of the west part of *Britain*.

† To strengthen this conjecture it must be remarked that among the *British* coins found at *Carnbre*, in *Cornwall*, as described by *Dr. Borlase*, that of No. 12 has evidently a plan of a town or city on it; and whoever carefully examines it will find it a near resemblance of modern *Exeter*.

‡ *Caer*, in the *Welsh* language, signifies a city; and at this day they call *Jerusalem*, *Caer-salem; Paris*, *Caer-Paris; Rome*, *Caer-Ruffayne*. *Carthage* was called, in the *Phœnician* language, *Caer-theia*, that is a new city.—*Cambden*, page 30.

§ According to the idiom of the *British* language, it should be *Caer-rydh* and *Caer-pen-huil-goit*.

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THE HISTORY

OF THE

CITY OF EXETER,

FROM THE

TIME OF JULIUS CÆSAR,

TO THE CLOSE OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

CHAPTER I.

From the Invasion of the Romans to the Norman Conquest.

CHAP. I.

Before Christ 54. Cæsar's Commentary.

JULIUS CÆSAR in his first expedition into Britain, A. C. 54, describes the British Towns as mere recesses in the woods, fortified with trunks of trees, and great banks of earth, to which they fled in times of danger, as a security for themselves, families, and cattle; but Cæsar was ignorant of the *Danmonii*, or their towns, his actions in Britain being confined to Kent, and the adjoining counties; and he himself confesses, that all he knew of the inland and detached inhabitants of the Island was from the *Gaulish* merchants, and even *they* acknowledged that they knew nothing of the interior parts of the country, but from hearsay only.

Hence, any pretension to determine at what time to date the foundation of Exeter, would be mere presumption; and as we have no authority but conjecture and dark traditions, probability only can be offered.

Ancient tradition.

It is true, the inhabitants of *Holcomb-burnell* have an idle tradition, that the *Britons* first began to build a City on a common near their village, for their Capital, but finding great inconveniences, from the want of water, they removed to the present scite of Exeter, nay they shew an old military work there as the ancient City.

A circumstance, however, highly in favor of its antiquity, is the great number of Roman coins which have been, and still are discovered by digging in the City and its neighbourhood; and that all the ancient roads meet in it, as a central situation.*

* Some *Phœnician* coins (as conjectured) were, some years since, discovered at Teignmouth; and, I have been informed, that one of the same sort has been found in Exeter; but after all possible enquiry, I could never find into whose possession it had got.

CHAP. I. And now to leave the dark ages of conjecture only, we shall come to an era, where such historians who have escaped the ravages of time will enlighten our paths, and lead us to those historic facts which may be depended upon.

A. M. 3946. Anno Mundi 3946, according to *Richard* of *Cirencester*, (although *Speed* places the date 3873) and 54 years before the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ, *Julius Cæsar* having subdued all *Gaul*, invaded *Britain*, incited thereto, according to some authors, by a desire to revenge on the Britons their having sent succours to the *Veneti*, a people of *Armorica*, (now *Bretagne*) in *France*, landed, after an obstinate resistance from the *Britons*, on the coast of *Kent*, supposed to be the beach between *Deal* and *Dover*.

Julius Cæsar's invasion.

The *Britons* being divided into many petty sovereignties, united their forces under *Cassibelaunus*, King of the *Trinobantes*,* (*Theomantius*, his son, being at that time Prince of the *Danmonii*,) and *Cæsar*, after gaining a few disputed battles, sailed back to *Gallia*.

The next year, *Cæsar* having collected a more numerous army and navy, again invaded *Britain*, and landed near the same place, when he was a second time bravely opposed: but *Cassibelaunus* being deserted by his allies, submitted to *Cæsar*, who once more returned back to *Gallia*, and being satisfied with receiving hostages from the neighbouring states, and a promise of tribute, (which, in all probability, was never paid) left the authority of the Romans, more nominal than real, in this Island.†

I have so far digressed from what materially concerns the *City* of *Exeter* in order to confute the many idle traditions, and common stories, that every ancient castle, or ruinous tower, was built by *Julius Cæsar*, (as it is often ignorantly said of the *Castle* of *Exeter*) when, from the most authentic historians, his short stay in this Island would not allow him time sufficient to build castles, or any other works, saving those that were necessary for his own security, the fortifying of his camps, he being continually harrassed by armed bodies of the *Britons*, and *Exeter* at too great a distance from the field of action.

* The Inhabitants of Essex.

† Some authors are of opinion he only frightened the Britons by a successful battle; or, as Lucan says,

"Territa quæsitis ostendit terga Britannis."
Fled from the Britons whom his arms had sought.

And Tacitus says, "he did not conquer Britain, but only shewed it to the Romans."

CHAP. I.

The *Romans* made no attempt on the *Britons* until A. D. 43, near a century after *Cæsar;* when the Emperor *Claudius* sent *Aulus Plautius*, his General, into Britain, and through the dissensions among the *Britons* themselves, some provinces were subdued, and *Claudius* himself soon after coming over to *Britain*, was for a long time bravely opposed by *Cunobeline*, King of the *Trinobantes*, and after his death, by his Sons, *Caractacus*, King of the *Silures*,* and *Togodumnus*, King of the *Danmonii:* but the death of *Togodumnus* in this war, together with the defeat and captivity of *Caractacus*, completed the triumph of the *Romans*, and rivetted the fetters of the *Britons*. Soon after, by the repeated victories of *Vespasian*, and *Julius Agricola*, in the Reign of the Emperor *Domitian*, the whole of South Britain was reduced into a Roman Province.

A. D. 43.

Exeter of note in the time of the Romans.

That the City of *Exeter* was of great note in the time of the Roman Government must be allowed, whether we consider it as the Capital City of the *Danmonii*, its strong and advantageous situation for defence against the revolts of a recently conquered people, naturally stubborn, and detesting a foreign yoke, or its convenient situation for commerce (on the banks of a navigable river) and its vicinity to the Tin district, which was then a great branch of trade in these Western provinces: therefore, from all these concurrent circumstances, it may naturally be concluded that the *Romans* (civilized as they were at this period) would not neglect the many advantages that might occur to themselves by garrisoning it, not only to defend their conquests, but to protect their trade.

A. D. 140.

Yet, notwithstanding all probable conjectures, history is quite silent, nor is *Isca* once mentioned by the *Roman* historians,† except in the Itinerary of *Antonine*, who travelled through Britain in the reign of *Antoninus Pius*, A. D. 140; and whose journey from *Calleva* to *Isca Dum nunniorum* I shall here transcribe from *Cambden:*—

Iter 15.

"A Calleva . . . now Wallingford, in Berkshire.
Isca Dum nunniorum . Exeter.
M. P. CXXXVI. Sic.

Vindomi	M. P. XV now Silchester, Hants.
Venta Belgarum .	M. P. XXI . Winchester.
Brigæ	M. P. XI . . Broughton, Hants.
Sorbiodoni . . .	M. P. VIII . Old Sarum.
Vindocladia . . .	M. P. XII . Shaftesbury.
Durnovaria . .	M. P. IX . . Dorchester.
Mori duno . . .	M. P. XXXVI Seaton, in Devonshire.
Isca Dum nunniorum	M. P. XV. . Exeter."

* People of South Wales.

† The Chronicle of the Cathedral indeed says that *Exeter* was besieged by

CHAP. I.

Ptolomy of *Alexandria*, who wrote a system of Geography in the reign of the Emperor *Adrian*, about A. D. 144, has given the latitude and longitude of the mouth of the river *Exe* and *City* of *Exeter* according to the Geography of the age he lived in, which places the whole of the *South* of *Britain* too far *North* by two or three degrees:—

	Lat.	*Lon.*
Mouth of the River Isca ..	52° 20'	.. 17° 00'
Isca ..	52 45	.. 17 30

Roman Coins, &c.

The great number of Roman Coins, and other antiquities,* that have been discovered in this city and its neighbourhood, and its situation on the great Roman or military road;† which first began at *Totness*, passing over *Haldon*, (where some vestiges are still remaining) through *Exeter*, over the Ford below the Old Bridge, (which still bears the name of the Old Ford) and was continued on through Somersetshire to *Lincoln*, are convincing proofs that it was a settlement, if not

Matthew of Westminster.

the Emperor Vespasian, A. D. 49, and that Arviragus, then King of the Britons, compelled him to raise the siege.

* So numerous have been the Roman coins discovered in this City, particularly in the late alterations in the Castle, that want of room will not allow a full description. They are mostly of the latter Emperors; a gold one of Nero, two brass ones of Julius Cæsar, and two base silver ones of Carausius, are the best preserved. Some years since, in digging for the foundation of a house, the upper end of Musgrave's Alley, (now occupied by Mr. Eales, Attorney,) a colossal head of the Empress Julia Donna, and an ancient brass lamp were found, supposed (from a crescent being embossed upon it) to have belonged to a temple of Diana, from whence some conjectures are formed that a temple dedicated to that Goddess once stood near the spot. Roman coins also, and bones of animals have been discovered in digging the ground on St. David's hill; and at Mr. Upham's, near Broadgate, in enlarging a cellar, was lately found a Niche walled up, in which were several brass Pagan deities in good preservation, and part of a tessellated pavement.

† Besides this road, which was termed the *Fosse-way*, another military way, namely *Ikeneld-street*, entered this City, through *Dorchester* and *Seaton* from the East; these roads probably again divided; one taking its course over the old Ford, through *Kenton*, (where, as well as on *Haldon*, visible remains of it are still to be perceived) to Totness, as before related; and as the *Romans* had several stations to the West of *Totness*, there cannot be the least doubt of its being continued to *Tamara*, (now *Tamerton folliot:*) and from thence to *Uxella* (either *Grampound* or *Lostwithiel*) and *Voluba*, at or near *Falmouth* in *Cornwall*. The other road crossed the *Exe* near *Goulds-hays*, passing up *Greenway-lane*, was continued to *Oakhampton*, and from thence to the promontory of *Hercules*, (now Hartland Point.) Besides those roads, there were several vicinal ways, that branched either from, or into them, particularly one that proceeded from *Longbrook-street*, over *Stoke-hill*, (by the ancient Camp) which crossed the river near *Pines-house*; from this there was another branch, by the present *Mary-pole* and *Black-boy lanes*, communicating with the two great roads near *Heavitree*.

colony, of the *Romans;* and if some authors are to be credited, that the *Romans* called it *Augusta*, (a name they never gave but to their colonies) there can be no doubt that *Exeter* was a colony of that people.

About a mile from the City, on *Stoke-hill*, are the remains of an ancient camp, evidently *Roman;* the Graff and Fosse in some places very visible; and on *Woodbury-hill*, about six miles South East, is a large intrenchment, which must anciently have been a very strong post; but whether it was a *Roman* or *British* work cannot be determined.

Ancient Tumuli near Exeter.

In the vicinity of *Exeter* are many *Tumuli*, or, as they are commonly called, Barrows, composed of earth and stones, which were evidently ancient burial places: between *Cullompton* and *Honiton*, on *Kentsmoor*, are two large Barrows, many on *East-hill*, near *Ottery St. Mary*, and on *Haldon* a great number, particularly on the side towards *Kenn*, composed, for the most part, of flinty stones.

In the year 1773, some labourers, digging in one of those Barrows for flints, to repair the road leading from *Kennford* to *Newton Bushell*, discovered an Urn at the depth of four feet from the top of the barrow, and sunk near six inches in the solid earth; it consisted of earthenware evidently baked, was covered with a flat stone about five inches thick, and contained a quantity of greasy ashes (which smelled like soot) and fragments of burnt bones; the workmen, thinking they had found a treasure, eagerly broke it in pieces: the Urn was about fourteen inches in height, and ten inches in diameter, at its most bulging part.

A further search being made in the same *Tumulus*, another Urn was discovered at fourteen feet distance from the spot where the first was found; and, twelve feet from the second, a third; each containing a quantity of greasy ashes and burnt bones, plainly human: these urns were so much decayed through length of time, that they quickly fell to pieces on being handled: they were made of a dark greyish clay, found in many parts of *Haldon*, and ornamented with several kinds of figures, before they were burnt.*

* *Sir Lawrence Palk, Bart.* discovered Urns, with Roman Coins, in one of the Barrows on the northern part of *Haldon*, specimens of which are now in my possession; they are small, brass, of the Emperor Gallienus Victorinus, one of the nineteen, or, as they are called, thirty tyrants, during Gallienus' reign, the usurper in Britain, and of Probus. Whether these coins were originally placed there when the *Tumulus* was formed, or since that period deposited by way of security, can only be conjectured: the circumstance, however, seems to be subversive of a partial hypothesis, which, in my essay on the Urn, I had formed of these *Tumuli* being *Danish*, but does not affect that which attributes them to the Britons.—J. S.

CHAP. I. The general structure of the Barrows throughout the county has been found to be uniform, and the discoveries which have been made have been nearly similar. From those on *Haldon*, indeed, Urns of a rude form and composition have been taken; and from one in particular, that forms a boundary between the Parishes of *Kenn* and *Kenton*, beneath a large flat stone, which was supported by others around, an Urn, plain in figure, and unbaked; though tinged as it was with smoke, it appeared to have been exposed to a fire, it was removed without receiving any injury: it had a singularity in its position, the mouth being inverted, from which, on its being raised, a quantity of ashes and white bones were discharged: this is now in the possession of the *Rev. John Swete*, of *Oxton House*, behind which, on the verge of *Haldon*, it was discovered; and of the Urn, an account and plate were given in a volume of Essays, by a Society of Gentlemen of this City.

The custom of burning the bodies of their deceased friends and relations was common to most ancient Nations, and even practised by the Jews themselves,* and therefore it is most probable they were the remains of either *Britons* or *Romans*, before their conversion to Christianity.

It may be proved from innumerable instances, that this custom was very early practised, though not generally, as we find from Sacred Writ; *Abraham* purchased a burying place of the sons of *Heth*, wherein he interred his wife *Sarah;* and that the *Egyptians* buried their dead is evident from the great care they took in embalming their bodies: some are of opinion that this custom was introduced to prevent any indecencies being committed on the dead bodies by their enemies, which seems probable from that passage in the First Book of *Samuel*, where the inhabitants of *Jabesh Gilead* burnt the bodies of *Saul* and his Sons, to prevent their receiving any more indecencies from the *Philistines*, notwithstanding it was the common custom of the *Israelites* to bury their dead. And so *Sylla*, among the *Romans*, was the first of his family who ordered his body to be burnt, for fear the barbarities he had executed on that of *Marius* might be retaliated upon his own. At the siege of *Troy*, the *Greeks* used both ways, of interring and burning; *Patroclus* was burned, and *Ajax* laid in the ground. The *Romans* derived from the *Greeks* both these customs of burning and burying: "*In urbe neve* Sepelito *neve* Urito," says the law of the twelve tables.

* See the 2d Chronicles, xvi chap. 14 v.—xxi chap. 19 v.—and Amos, vi chap. 10 v.

The place where they burned the dead was set apart for this religious use, and called *Glebe;* from which practice the name is yet applied to all the lands belonging to the Church.

The *Saxons* (as far as comes to our knowledge) did not make use of that method of interment,* but generally enclosed the bodies of their deceased friends in stone coffins, or graves lined with chalk, by the sides of the public highways, or in common fields. The custom of burying the bodies of the dead within the walls of Cities and Towns not being instituted (according to *Bede*) until the reign of *Cuthred*, about A. D. 740.

The only reason that can be assigned for the small share that *Exeter* had in the transactions, and its being so little noticed by Historians during the *Roman* government in *Britain* (a period of near four centuries) was probably from its situation, almost in the South West corner of the Island, at a great distance from the scene of action. Bede.

During this time, the *Picts*, *Scots*, and other barbarous nations, who continually harassed the *Roman* province, were confined to the Northern extremities of the Island; and although they made inroads into the more Southern parts, and committed the most horrid devastations, yet most of the *Roman* garrisons being placed on the Northern frontiers, they were as often driven back to their woods and fastnesses: neither could the enemy have penetrated so far to the South, without making an entire conquest of the whole province, which doth not appear ever to have been the case.

The *Saxon* pirates, who ravaged the coast of *Britain* during the time of the latter Emperors, were seldom seen to the South of the *Straits* of *Dover;* hence, it may be concluded, that although the Northern and Eastern parts were often in a state of war and confusion, the Southern parts of *Devon* must have enjoyed an almost uninterrupted peace, and consequently have given the Historian no occasion to mention a place situated so far from the scene of action. Cambden.

After the *Romans* had lorded it over all *South Britain*, for near four hundred years, their empire began to decline, the legions stationed in the *British* Garrisons were called home to defend *Italy* and the Capital itself, from the barbarous nations which then broke through the frontiers on every side: *Britain* thus deprived of its protectors, and the greatest part of the *British* youth being incorporated in the *Roman* legions, the *Picts*, *Scots*, and other tribes of the *Britons* (who had bravely opposed the *Roman* yoke, and had been pent up in Bede.

* The Danes certainly burnt their dead bodies in Britain.—J. S.

CHAP. I. the northern parts of the Island) broke through the walls of *Severus*, like a deluge,* and destroyed with fire and sword every thing before them, even to the very sea.

The *Britons*, reduced to the greatest distress, fled to the woods and marshes for refuge; in this extremity they chose *Vortigern*, Prince of the *Danmonii*, for their King, who, though disgraced with every vice, possessed the chief authority among them; and by his counsel a deputation was sent to the *Saxons*, a *German* nation, desiring their assistance.

It seems from the choice made by the *Britons* of *Vortigern*, that the *Danmonii*, by their situation, were in some measure exempted from the desolation that had spread through the other parts of the *Island*, and that he, at the head of his *Danmonians*, collected the other affrighted *Britons* together, in order to make head against the barbarians.

The *Saxons*, a barbarous and intrepid nation, embraced the offer made to them, and sent 1600 men to the assistance of the *Britons;* these auxiliaries were embarked in three ships, under the command of two brothers, *Hengist* and *Horsa*, and landing in the isle of *Thanet*, on the coast of *Kent*, joined the *Britons*, and marched against the Invaders.

The enemy were quickly repelled by the *Saxons:* but these new allies, perceiving the weak undisciplined state of the *Britons*, conceived it an easy matter to conquer the country for themselves; therefore, sending intelligence to *Saxony* of the pusillanimity of *Vortigern*, and the weakness of the *Britons*, they were soon reinforced by 5000 more of their countrymen, who, (after several bloody battles fought between them and *Vortimer*, the Son of *Vortigern*) founded the first *Saxon* kingdom in *Britain*, that of *Kent*, and of which *Hengist* was the first King, who fixed his residence at *Canterbury*.

Saxon Invasion. The success of *Hengist*, together with the beauty and fertility of *Britain*, allured over swarms of new adventurers: a party of which (and wherein our history is mostly interested) landed in *Hampshire*, and laid the foundation of the West *Saxon* kingdom, in the year 495, under the command of *Cherdick*, at a place (from that event) called *Cherdick-shore*.

A. D. 495.

Cherdick, on his landing, met with a different reception from what his countrymen had experienced in the other parts of the Island; the *Britons*, disputing every inch of ground, gave him battle the very day of his landing, and though they were vanquished, they defended their liberties for some time

* A wall built by the Emperor *Severus*, quite across the Island, from Carlisle to Newcastle, to defend the Roman Province from the continual inroads of the unsubdued Britons.

against their invaders, until *Cherdick*, having called to his assistance his countrymen, from *Kent* and *Sussex*, and being joined by a fresh body of adventurers from *Germany*, who arrived at *Portsmouth*, under the conduct of *Port*, an eminent *Saxon*, gave battle to the *Britons*, then commanded by a King named *Nazanleod*. In this battle the *Britons* were defeated, and *Nazanleod*, with 5000 of his men were slain; and from this period we may date the foundation of the *West Saxon* kingdom, of which *Exeter* was for some time the Capital, and residence of its Kings. CHAP. I.

The *Britons* still continuing bravely to defend their country, the progress of the *Saxons* towards Devonshire was but slow; and we do not find that they made many conquests in that county until the year 568, when *Ceaulin* the third king of *Wessex*, is said to have conquered part of *Devon* and *Somerset*. A. D. 568. Hume.

In the year 615, a battle was fought at *Beandune* (now *Bampton)* in *Devonshire*, when the *Britons* were defeated by *Kynegils*, King of *Wessex*, with the slaughter of 1046 of their men. 615. Speed.

That the *Britons* were still in the possession of *Exeter*, we learn from *Matthew of Westminster*, who informs us that *Penda*, King of *Mercia*, besieged it in the year 632, when it was bravely defended by the *Britons*, until relieved by *Cadwallo* their King, who engaged, and defeated *Penda*, with a great slaughter of his troops. 632.

The *West Saxons* embraced Christianity in the reign of *Kynegils*, in the year 603; and in the reign of *Ina* (who built *Glastonbury* Abbey) about the year 712, was first instituted by that Prince, in the Kingdom of *Wessex*, the tax called (in those days) *Romescot*, or *Peter-pence*, which compelled every inhabitant that possessed in his house goods of one kind to the value of twenty-pence to pay yearly to the *Pope*, upon Lammas-day, one penny: this was looked upon as the King's alms; but afterwards demanded by succeeding Popes as a tribute. 603. 712. Speed.

No notice is taken by any author during this long period of the City of *Exeter*, nor do we find it once mentioned in history, but what hath already been related; it is sufficiently clear that the Britons held possession of it, and that Christianity flourished in Exeter, while as yet the *West Saxons* continued obstinate Pagans until the year 603, nearly 100 years after the foundation of their kingdom: and that the *Saxon* name, *Monkton*, (by which it was known to them until the reign of King *Athelstan)* was given it in derision by the Pagans, from the great number of Monks who had taken Saxon name.

CHAP. I.

refuge there, from the cruelties of the *Saxons*, it being their common practice, before their conversion to christianity, to massacre the Clergy (especially the Monks) whenever they were so unfortunate as to fall into their hands.

There can be no doubt that the Christian Religion flourished in *Exeter* during the Roman Government; but we have neither history nor tradition to point out to us either the number or situation of the British Churches in *Exeter*, nor is the smallest vestige of any one remaining.* That the *Britons* were converted to Christianity soon after their being conquered by the *Romans* we learn from *Theodoret*, *Clemens Romanus*, and our own countryman *Gildas*, who assures us that the Gospel was preached in Britain as early as the year 64. *Stow* likewise informs us, "that King *Lucius* built *St. Peter's* Church, in Cornhill, London, in the year of Christ 167."

Stow's Hist. London.

Stow.

In the persecution of the Emperor *Dioclesian*, the protomartyr of *Britain*, *St. Alban*, together with some thousands of Christians, were martyred at the City of *Verulam* (now *St. Albans)* in the year 293; and we likewise read of *Restitutus*, Bishop of *London*, who, with other British Bishops, was present at the Council of *Arles*, in *France*, in the year 314.

It is probable that the Christian Churches of *Exeter* fell in the general destruction of the City, by *Sweyne*, King of *Denmark*, in the year 1007, who levelled it even with the ground, and destroyed the historic memorials, which were chiefly kept by the monks, who also perished with them.

A. D. 800.

About the year 800, the Saxon Heptarchy, by their intestine wars with each other, paved the way for *Egbert*, the 19th King of the *West Saxons*, to aspire to the universal monarchy of England: he first turned his arms against the *Cornish Britons*, who still maintained the possession of *Cornwall*, and likewise of all that part of *Devon* situated West of the river *Exe*, together with the City of *Exeter* itself; and though the *Britons* were often defeated, they continued the war for 14 years; but at length submitted to *Egbert*, on condition of enjoying their own laws, and paying an annual tribute.

Exeter subject to the Saxons.

816.

In this treaty the City of *Exeter* was included, and from this period we may date its subjection to the *Saxon* government; and though the Britons were suffered to enjoy their lands the *Saxons* were permitted to dwell with them, which before this time (from the natural hatred they bore the *Saxons*, for dispossessing them of their most fruitful provinces)

* The Church of St. Pancras (although as small and mean as can be well imagined) yet bears evident marks of very remote antiquity.

they would not permit; thus all the country on the East side of the river *Tamar* became subject to the *West Saxon* government.

A. D. 827. Hume.

Egbert having thus subdued the *Cornish Britons*, completed the reduction of the Saxon Heptarchy, and was acknowledged as King of all England in the year 827.

832.

Egbert did not enjoy peace long, the *Danes* landing in the Isle of *Sheppey*, in Kent, plundered the country, and then escaped to their ships.

833.

The next year the *Danes* again landed at *Charmouth*, in *Dorsetshire*, from 35 ships, and were encountered by *Egbert:* the battle was bloody, and although the *Danes* lost a great number of men, they maintained the post they had taken, and made good their retreat to their ships.

Danes defeated.

Two years after they entered into a treaty with the *Cornish Britons*, and landing in *Cornwall* made an inroad into *Devonshire*, but were met by *Egbert*, on *Hengist Down*, and totally defeated.

851.

Ethelwolf having succeeded his father *Egbert*, the *Danes* still continued their ravages, burning and spoiling wherever they came: and in the year 851 once more landed in *Devonshire*, but were defeated by *Ceorle*, Earl of *Devon*, at *Wiganburgh*, near the mouth of the *Tamar*, with great slaughter, and forced to retreat to their ships again in the utmost confusion.

Danes again defeated.

The county of *Devon* appears to have been more free from the ravages of the *Danes* than the major part of *England:* the History of these times is full of the desolations committed by them, yet it doth not appear they made any more inroads into this county until the year 875.

868.

The year 868 is remarkable for the first religious foundation in the City of *Exeter* mentioned in History. King *Ethelbert*, Son of *Ethelwolf*, founded a monastery near where the Cathedral now stands, which was afterwards destroyed by the *Danes*.

875.

Anno 875, the *Danes* having almost overrun the whole Kingdom, the bravery and prudence of King *Alfred* preserved it from utter ruin, and compelled them to enter into a treaty with him, which was no sooner made than broken; for the treacherous *Danes*, without any pretence whatever, suddenly fell on the English army, defeated them, and then marching westward surprised the City of *Exeter*.

Exeter taken by the Danes.

Alfred collected fresh forces, and exerted such vigour that he fought no less than eight battles with them in one year; in consequence of which the *Danes* were reduced to the greatest distress; the remainder of the *Danish* army however wintered

Hume.

CHAP. 1. in *Exeter*, committing the greatest cruelties on the poor inhabitants, and expecting a reinforcement of their countrymen: but the *Danish* fleet met with such severe storms that 120 of their ships were cast away on the *English* coasts: and their army marching towards *Exeter* was met by *Alfred*, who after a severe battle entirely defeated them: new treaties were then entered into; and the *Danes* gave him both pledges and oaths to relinquish the land.

Speed.

Danes defeated.

A. D. 876.

The *Danes* who wintered in *Exeter* hearing of the misfortunes of their countrymen, and the citizens (incited by the successes of their King) falling upon them, some immediately fled to *Dartmouth*, and there shipped themselves; but most of these perished in a voilent tempest: the other party hastily retreated to *Chippenham*, in *Wiltshire*, where being joined by great numbers, under the command of three of their Kings, *Gurthun*, *Esketel*, and *Hammond*, they broke (notwithstanding the late treaty) into *Alfred's* dominions, ravaging the country, and burning and destroying all before them: the English being disheartened left the country in the greatest terror; and though *Alfred* defeated the plunderers in several engagements, yet such numbers continually arrived to join them, that *Alfred* was reduced to the greatest distress, and the *Danes* became possessed of all his kingdom, except the counties of *Somerset*, *Hants*, and *Wiltshire*, and some few fortified towns, among which was *Exeter*.

Danes again defeated.

Alfred, unable to make head for the present against the invaders, secreted himself; and in the habit of a peasant lived for some time in the house of a cowherd, who had been entrusted with some of his cattle: here *Alfred* collected some few of his trusty followers, and retired into an island in *Somersetshire*, formed by the rivers *Thone* and *Parret*, and rendered almost inaccessible by the bogs and morasses which surrounded it; here he built a fortress, and often sallied out upon the *Danes:* in this situation he remained near a twelvemonth.

Danes defeated by the people of Devon.

878.

While *Alfred* lay here concealed, *Hubba*, the *Dane*, having spread desolation over *Wales*, landed in *Devon*, from 23 ships, and besieged the Castle of *Kenwith*, situated near the mouth of the river *Taw: Oddune*, Earl of Devon, had taken refuge there, with a few of his followers, and being but ill supplied with water and provisions, he determined by some vigorous blow to prevent the necessity of submitting to the enemy: therefore, making a sudden sally on the *Danes* before sun-rise he put them to the rout, pursued them with great slaughter, killed *Hubba* himself, and took their famous

Standard, *Reafan*,* in which the *Danes* put their greatest confidence. CHAP. I.

Tradition still points out the place of *Hubba's* interment, and though the stones which (after the manner of the northern nations) were heaped on his grave are swept away by the incroachments of the sea, yet the place still retains the name of *Whibble-stone*, and is situated on the Strand, near *Appledore*, on the northern coast of *Devon*. Cambden. Hubba's grave.

Alfred being informed of these successes, left his retreat (before he assembled his subjects) in order to reconnoitre the *Danish* camp, and be himself convinced whether there was any probability of success, or not: therefore disguising himself in the character of a Harper, and passing unsuspected through every quarter, was introduced even to the tent of their King, *Gurthrum;* and remaining there several days he remarked the security of the *Danes*, their contempt of the *English*, (whom they considered as entirely subdued) and their dissolute waste of what they had gained by rapine and violence: he then secretly sent messengers to his subjects and summoned them to assemble at *Brixton*, on the borders of *Selwood Forest*, in *Somersetshire*. On the appointed day the English joyfully resorted to their King, whom, on his appearance among them, they welcomed with shouts of applause, and the more so, as they had considered him certainly dead. Stow. A. D. 878. Hume.

Alfred instantly conducted them to the *Danish* camp, and, knowing its situation, attacked the enemy in the most unguarded quarter: the *Danes* surprised to see an army of the *English*, (whom they had long held as totally subdued) but much more at seeing *Alfred* at their head, made but a faint resistance, and, though greatly superior in numbers, were defeated with a prodigious slaughter. Danes defeated by Alfred.

Alfred pursued the remainder of the routed army to a fortified camp, where they had fled for safety, and where (being reduced to the greatest extremity by hunger) they once more desired terms of peace, to which *Alfred* consented on conditions of their embracing Christianity, and evacuating his territories.

Notwithstanding the former treaty, the other parties of the *Danes*, roving about for prey, and not considering themselves bound by the last compact, continued to infest the *English* coasts; and in the year 879 another body of them, who 879. William of Malmsbury

* This Standard was a Black Raven, embroidered on a red field by the Sisters of *Hubba*, and consecrated to the God of War by the Pagan Priests. The *Danes* were so strongly persuaded of its sanctity, that they fully believed it would insure them victory whenever it was unfurled.

CHAP. I.

had plundered *Normandy*, in *France*, landed at *Wareham*, in *Dorsetshire*, (*Alfred* being then in the north of *England*) and marched to *Exeter*, which they instantly besieged; the citizens defended themselves with the greatest resolution, (well knowing the consequences of a surrender to such a barbarous foe) and their intrepid Monarch being informed of the citizens' distress, dispatched a trusty messenger to assure them he would hasten to their relief.

Exeter besieged by the Danes.

Alfred considering the importance of the city immediately followed his messengers, at the head of a chosen body of *West Saxons:* the citizens at this period were in the utmost extremity, yet continued bravely to defend themselves, not doubting that their King would give them his full aid and co-operation. The *Danes* despairing from the brave opposition made to all their assaults, and hearing of *Alfred's* approach, broke up the siege and fled to their ships; *Alfred* closely followed them, but they were embarked before he could come up with them. In their retreat they committed the most horrid devastations, spoiling and destroying the country, neither sparing age nor sex.

Relieved by Alfred.

The *English* fleet which *Alfred* had stationed on the southern coast fell in with many of their ships; these were captured, and the crews, by order of the English Monarch, were executed as Pirates.

Alfred, being convinced of the great utility of a naval force, to protect the coasts against the continual inroads of these barbarians, fitted out two fleets, and by some timely severities on the intruders, kept his kingdom in profound peace (except a few intervals) until the year 893.

During this time of peace, *Alfred* repaired and beautified such cities and towns as had been damaged in the former wars; among which, the city of *Exeter* is mentioned by *Matthew of Westminster*, who says "*he fortified it with new bulwarks, and greatly beautified it.*"

Exeter repaired by Alfred.

A. D. 893.

The *Danes*, who had been settled in *Northumberland*, broke out into open rebellion, and being joined by great numbers of new adventurers, embarked on board of 240 ships, and appearing before *Exeter* laid close siege to it; the citizens again stoutly defended themselves until *Alfred* came to their relief, who falling upon the rebels before they were aware, defeated them, and pursued them to their ships with great slaughter.

Hume.

Again besieged.

Exeter does not appear in any of the transactions during the remainder of this excellent Prince's reign, who died A. D. 901, after having fought in person fifty-six pitched battles

by land and sea; and in most of which he proved victorious.*

Edward, surnamed the Elder, the son of *Alfred*, succeeded his Father, and in the year 918 held a *Wittena-Gemote*, or general assembly of his chief subjects in this city.† A. D. 918. Isaac.

Athelstan succeeded his Father *Edward*, in the year 926; in his reign the *Britons* who had hitherto inhabited the western part of *Devonshire*, and also (in conjunction with the *Saxons*, according to the treaty made with King *Egbert*) the city of *Exeter*, rebelled, when *Athelstan* marched westward, compelled them to abandon the city, and the whole of *Devonshire*, and fixed the river *Tamar* as the boundary of the *Cornish Britons:* after this he returned to *Exeter*, destroyed the old fortifications, (which before this time consisted of huge bulwarks of earth, strengthened by stakes, and surrounded by ditches) building a stone wall of one mile and a half in circuit, flanked by lofty towers, and encompassed by a deep and regular fosse. Exeter taken from the Saxons. Rebuilt by Athelstan.

The greatest part of the wall built by *Athelstan* is still remaining; it consists of small unhewn stones as they were dug from the quarry, the interstices filled up with hot lime and rough sand, and faced with ashler work of hewn stone, the whole strengthened by strong buttresses: the mortar used in this work is become from length of time so hard and durable, that on attempting to pull down any part of it the stones are sooner broken than separated one from the other. City Walls.

The walls are 12 feet in thickness, and at present, where the battlements are remaining, 30 feet in height; most of the embrasures had orillons, or loop-holes, for the defendants to discharge their arrows and other missiles under cover. The number of towers originally on this wall cannot now be determined, nor whether there were any more than what now remain in *situ;* those of which we have at present any vestiges are only six in number, five standing between the Castle Towers on the walls.

* In the year 1784, the society of Antiquarians, receiving good information that the remains of this Prince were deposited in the church of *Great-Driffield*, in *Yorkshire*, deputed two of their members to examine into the fact; after digging for some time they found a stone coffin, and on opening the same discovered the entire skeleton of this great Prince, together with a great part of his steel armour. The coffin was again closed up, as well as the grave, and left in the same state as when found. It appears that *Alfred* being wounded at the battle of *Stamford-Briggs* returned to *Driffield*, where he languished of his wounds 20 days, and then dying was buried in this church.

† *Isaac* places this parliament A. D. 888, which is thirteen years before *Edward* came to the crown.

CHAP. I. and Southgate, and one (vulgarly called the Snail Tower) on the western side of the wall, fronting the river. Only one of these towers remain still (excepting the roof) in its original state; it consisted of three stages, or floors, for the defendants to stand on; it is 42 feet in height, from the present scalp of the ditch, having orillons in front, and on each side, to flank the ditch; a door-way was made here (now walled up) and called *Bedford* postern, it being a passage for the conveniency of *Bedford* House, and plainly appears to have been constructed long since the building was raised.

This venerable specimen of the skill of our ancestors in architecture, which has been standing upwards of 860 years, is now in a state of decay, and in all probability may soon share the fate of the other towers, which have been taken down even with the city walls, and deprived of the whole of their upper stories.

Exeter Castle. The Castle is not mentioned in the history of these times; but from the Saxon arches, and similarity of work and materials, it seems to have been built at the same time with the walls; it is situated in the northern part of the city, and on the most elevated part of the hill; the ascent being very steep, particularly from the north, on which side it was defended by a deep moat and counterscarp, and which, from its great declivity, prevented any probability of success in attacking it on that side, as no military engine then used in besieging towns could be brought near enough for any execution; neither could mining be effected, as the rock on which it was built is composed of very hard stone, of the granite kind. The mound on which the masonry is erected is partly artificial, composed of loose stones (probably the refuse of the quarry) laid edgeways, and filled in with earth; this plainly appeared in the alterations that were lately made.

The walls are of an oval figure, the longest diameter being 109 yards, and the transverse 101 yards; they are very thick, and, like the city walls, strongly cemented with hot lime and sand: there were five towers on the walls, two square, and three of a semicircular figure. A more particular description, with the history of this ancient fortress, will be given in the course of this work.

Name changed. *Athelstan* changed the name of *Monkton* (by which the city had been called by the *Saxons* ever since the year 450) to *Exanceaster;* and also founded a house of Benedictine Monks, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, (now the eastern part of the

Cathedral, which is converted into a Library;) he likewise built the *Abbey* of *Saint Germans*, in *Cornwall; St. Petrock*, at *Bodmin;* and *Pilton*, near *Barnstaple;* and caused the Bible to be translated into the *Anglo-Saxon* language, at that time the mother tongue of this country. Baker's Chronicle.

This Monarch* granted liberty of Coinage to some of the principal cities and towns in his dominions, and established two mints for that purpose in *Exeter*. The *Saxon* coins of this period were chiefly silver, very thin, and the dies in which they were struck badly executed. Mints in Exeter.

Cambden has given many specimens of this Monarch's coins, (plate 5, p. 135) among which is one which he ascribes to this city, and reads the legend, on the reverse, *Tuna moneta Exancester:* but this in all probability is a coin of *Ethelbert's*, as there is one of his still preserved with the same reverse. Cambden. Saxon Coins.

Edmund, the brother of *Athelstan*, succeeded him, and kept the *Danes* so much in subjection, during his short reign of five years, that the kingdom enjoyed for that time an interval of peace. *Edmund* being treacherously murdered at *Pucklechurch*, in *Gloucestershire*, by *Leof*, a noted thief, (whom he had formerly banished) was succeeded by his brother *Edred*, who, in the year 950, founded the first Bishopric in this county, at *Bishops Tawton;* and also that of *St. Germans*, in *Cornwall*. A. D. 948. 950.

In the year 959 *Edgar* succeeded his brother *Edwy;* and finding the country overrun with wolves changed the tribute annually paid by the British Princes, of *cattle* and *specie*, into a delivery of 300 wolves' heads; and by this means, in the course of a few years, a wolf could scarce be found in the whole island. 959.

The third wife of *Edgar* was *Elfrida*, daughter of *Orgar*, Earl of *Devon*, the founder of *Tavistock Abbey;* it is reported of him, that he was of such gigantic stature and strength, that once coming with the King to *Exeter*, and finding the *Eastgate* shut and barred, and the Porter absent, he, by the force of his arms only, unhinged the gates from the bars, and with his foot forced them open; his thigh bone was preserved in the Abbey of *Tavistock* until the dissolution of that monastery. William of Malmsbury. Orgar, Earl of Devon.

Edward (surnamed the martyr) succeeded his father *Edgar*, and after a reign of four years was treacherously murdered 979.

* The name of *Athelstan* is still traditionally remembered in *Exeter:* a few years since a very ancient stone building was remaining in *St. Paul's* Street, vulgarly called King *Addlestone's* Palace.

CHAP. I. at *Corfe Castle*, in *Dorsetshire*, by the instigation of his Step-mother, *Elfrida*, to make way for his half-brother, *Ethelred*, who accordingly succeeded him.

Ethelred (named the unready) the son of *Edgar*, by *Elfrida*, seemed greatly to have degenerated from the virtues and bravery of his ancestors; it is related of him that he was extremely avaricious, indolent, and cowardly, being entirely governed by the monks, whose pernicious counsels were the ruin of his family and kingdom, and occasioned an insurrection of his subjects, which, being fomented by the *Danes* (who had been incorporated with the *English* and lived quietly for the space of 22 years) broke out into open rebellion. The foreign *Danes* being acquainted with these transactions immediately invaded *England* with a large fleet, and after spoiling great part of the country, in the year 1001, sat down before *Exeter*, besieging it with the greatest fury.

Exeter besieged by the Danes.

A. D. 1001. The siege continued for near two months, the citizens in many sallies driving the enemy from their walls, and repelling them in many attacks; at length, after being reduced to the greatest distress, they were succoured by *Athelmere*, Earl of *Devon*, and the inhabitants of the neighbouring country; the citizens then sallying out on the plunderers, attacked them in their camp, (between the village of *Pinhoe* and *Exeter*) and after a bloody engagement forced them from it, and totally defeated them: the *Danes* retreated in great confusion to their ships.*

Danes defeated at Pinhoe.

These successes were but a temporary relief to the unhappy *English*; the barbarians continually reinforced by great numbers of their countrymen from abroad, and joined by those who had been settled in *Northumberland* and *East Anglia*, spread desolation throughout the whole kingdom, destroying every where with sword and fire; *Ethelred* endeavoured to remedy these evils by fitting out a fleet, which he put under the command of *Edric*, Duke of *Mercia*, who had married his daughter *Editha*; but he, together with part of the fleet treacherously deserted to the enemy, and the remainder were obliged to take refuge in the river *Exe*.†

1002. *Ethelred* in this distress issued, by the advice of his nobles, an order (both cowardly and inhuman) that all the *Danes* dispersed among the *English* should be massacred: on a certain

* There are some vestiges of the *Danish* works still remaining: on a hill opposite the Castle is a mount, vulgarly called *Danes' Castle*; and many ditches in the adjoining fields, supposed to be part of their intrenchments.

† See Prefatory Remarks.

evening this horrid mandate was most cruelly put into execution throughout the whole kingdom, in cold blood, on *St. Brice's* day, the 13th November, 1002.

The news of this massacre inflamed the minds of the *Danes* to a desperate revenge, and in the year 1003, *Sweyne*, King of *Denmark*, invaded *England* with a most powerful army; *Ethelred*, in endeavouring to stop his progress, was totally defeated, with a great slaughter of his troops; and the *English* nobility basely deserting their King the *Danes* overspread the whole kingdom, and committed the greatest cruelties wherever they came. The citizens of *Exeter* hearing of these barbarities repaired their walls and strengthened their fortifications, in order to resist his attacks; *Sweyne* being informed of these preparations marched immediately towards *Exeter*, and on his march received the submission of *Athelmere*, Earl of *Devon*, and the inhabitants of the county; *Sweyne* closely invested the city, and the citizens were determined to defend themselves to the last extremity, and not submit but with the loss of their lives; yet how vain is human prudence when providence has ordained it otherwise! the citizens were betrayed by their commander, *Hugh*, a *Norman* by birth, (who had been appointed governor of the city by the interest of Queen *Emma*) he treacherously let in the *Danes*, and *Sweyne* exasperated at the resistance he met with put all the inhabitants that fell into his hands to the sword, burnt the city, and levelled it even with the ground from the East to the West gate.

Earl of Devon submits to the Danes.

Exeter besieged by the Danes.

A. D. 1003.

Hoveden.

In this disastrous calamity whatever had been spared by time of *British* or *Roman* remains of magnificence must have been destroyed; and during the remainder of the reign of *Ethelred*, and the short one of his son, *Edmund*, *Exeter* lay amidst its own ruins, a heap of desolation. *Edmund* (surnamed *Ironside*) after a reign of one year, was basely murdered by the traitor, *Edric*, and this made room for *Canute* the *Dane*, the son of *Sweyne*.

Exeter taken and destroyed by them.

Canute, by the joint consent of the *English* and *Danes*, was elected King, and he put an end to a war which had continued above two hundred years, and had cost the two nations more than 300,000 men, who were killed in fifty-four land, and thirty-eight sea fights, besides innumerable skirmishes and sieges.

1017.

Peace being now re-established the scattered inhabitants began to repair to and re-edify their former habitations, and *Exeter* rose, like a phœnix, out of her own ashes. *Canute* granted great immunities to the returning citizens; and, in some measure to expiate the cruelties of his father *Sweyne*, repaired the ruined churches and monasteries, and gave to that of

Canute the Dane's donations to Exeter.

CHAP. I. *St. Peter* the manor of *Stoke*, near *Exeter*, from whence came its adjunct name of *Stoke Canon*. There is still remaining in the parish Church of *Stoke* an ancient painting on glass, in one of the windows, representing a King in a praying posture, with a label over his head "*Rex Canutus.*"

A. D. 1036. *Canute* died on the 12th of November, 1036, after a reign of 19 years, during which, by his virtues and impartial administration of justice, he acquired the love and esteem of his subjects, both *English* and *Danes*. The short reigns of his two sons, *Harold* and *Hardicanute* (who succeeded each other) were marked with cruelty and gluttony; this made the *Danish* line odious to the people, and therefore, on the death of *Hardicanute*,* (who died at *Lambeth*, from excess of drinking)

1041. in the year 1041, they unanimously conferred the vacant throne on *Edward*, the son of *Ethelred*, which again restored the *Saxon* line.

Charter granted by Edward the Confessor.

Edward, surnamed the *Confessor*, was crowned at *Winchester*, on Easter day, 1041; he remitted the yearly tribute of 40,000 Pounds (called *Dane-geldt*) which had been levied for upwards of forty years on the *English* subjects, and collected into one body the laws made by his predecessors, viz. those of the *Saxons*,

1041. *Mercians*, and *Danes*, which are the foundation of what is called to this day the common law; he likewise granted new charters and immunities to such cities as had suffered much in the late wars; repaired the religious houses, particularly the monastery of *St. Peter*, in *Exeter;* united the two Bishops'

Bishop's See removed to Exeter. sees of *Crediton* and *St. Germans*, removed them to *Exeter*, and, with his Queen, *Editha*, installed *Leofricus*, in the following remarkable form of words:—

1049. "I, Kynge *Edward*, taking *Leofricus* by my right haunde, and *Editha*, my Queen, by the lefte, do enstalle hym the fyrste and most famous Byshoppe of *Excester*, with a great abundance of blessynges to all such as shall furder and encrease the same; but with a fearfull and execrable curse to all such as shall diminish or take any thing from it."

The Monks who were resident in the Benedictine Abbey, founded by King *Athelstan*, in *Exeter*, were removed by *Edward* to *Westminster*, where he built that stately edifice now known by the name of *Westminster Abbey*. He was the last King of *England* of the race of *Egbert;* he died at *Westminster* on the 5th of January, 1065.

* The death of *Hardicanute* was yearly celebrated by the *English* nation for a long time after his death; and this celebration was called in derision *Hoxtide*, that is the feast of the Hog.

CHAP. I.

On the death of *Edward*, *Harold*, Earl of *Devon*, and son of *Godwin*, Earl of *Kent*, was elected to the vacant throne, (notwithstanding the claim of the lawful heir, *Edgar Atheling*, grandson of *Edmund Ironside;*) he defeated the *Danes* who had landed from 500 ships and taken the city of *York;* where their King, *Harold Harfagar*, and *Toston*, (brother to *Harold*, who had joined the enemy) were killed. A. D. 1065.

While *Harold* was in the north of *England* pursuing the *Danes*, *William*, surnamed the bastard, Duke of *Normandy*, landed with a great army at *Pevensey*, in *Sussex: Harold* marched with the greatest dispatch to give him battle, and met the *Norman* Duke near *Hastings;* the battle was fatal to the *English* monarch, who was slain, with the flower of his nobility, and a prodigious number of common men. This battle, which decided the fate of *England*, and brought it under a foreign yoke, was fought on Saturday, the 14th of October, 1066. Harold defeated by William Duke of Normandy. 1066.

The motives which induced *William* to invade *England*, and the facility of his conquest, are thus accounted for by most historians: *William* pretended that *Harold* had sworn, while in *Normandy*, that on the death of King *Edward* he would promote his interest in the succession; and that *Edward* on his death bed had appointed him his successor; but as the historians of those days were chiefly Monks, who were strongly inclined to the *Norman* interest, we can put but little confidence in their report; nor does it seem probable that *Edward* should dispose of his crown to a foreigner, while his nephew, *Edgar Atheling*, was living, and who was the undoubted heir.

The facility of this conquest, and the subjection of a people who for many years had so gallantly defended their liberties against the *Danes*, is by these bigotted historians ascribed to the almost continual peace which the *English* had enjoyed for nearly fifty years; and which had made them neglect their military discipline, and abandon themselves to luxury and idleness: to which may be added the licentiousness of the clergy, the effeminacy, gluttony, and oppression of the nobility, together with the drunkenness and disorders of the common people.

Other authors relate (and it appears with more truth) that it was principally owing to the treachery of the Bishops (the sees having been mostly filled, by the ill-judged policy of *Edward*, with *Norman* Monks) and the superior skill of the *Normans* in military tactics, who in this battle made great havoc among the *English* with their cross bows, a weapon to them before unknown.

CHAP. 1.

The *Norman* historians tell us that the main body of the *English* were armed with Bills, (their ancient weapons) and that they kept themselves so compact in one body that no force could break or disorder them, until the *Normans*, pretending to retreat, brought the former into disorder, and by that means gained the victory.

Duke *William* having gained this decisive victory marched towards London, not in a direct, but circuitous route; and crossing the *Thames*, at *Wallingford*, proceeded to *Berkhampstead*, where he was met by *Alred*, Archbishop of *York*, who was attended by many other prelates, *Edgar Atheling*, (the legal heir) and several of the principal nobility, and who there swore fealty to him.

Notwithstanding this, *Edwin* and *Morcar*, the two stout Earls of *Northumberland* and *Mercia*, endeavoured to rouse the *English* from their lethargy, and once more to oppose the conqueror; but finding the Bishops (who at that time had all the power in their hands) siding with the *Normans*, they desisted from their attempt. *William* marched to *London*, and was crowned at *Westminster*, on Christmas-day, 1066.

A. D. 1066.

The city of *Exeter*, as hath been already mentioned, had suffered greatly during the *Danish* wars; and although there was only a period of 63 years from its total destruction, by *Sweyne*, to the *Norman* conquest, the historians of that time represent it to be strong, wealthy, and full of inhabitants; and this is fully corroborated by the obstinate defence it made against the conqueror, in the year 1076, which will be treated of in its proper place.

Ancient government of Exeter.

By what form this city was governed during the times of the *Britons* and *Romans* is not mentioned by historians; but by the *Romans* in their colonies and fortresses it was executed by a *Pro-Prætor*, whose power was arbitrary, and government military. During the *Saxon* period, its government was by a Portgrave, or Portreeve, who had power over all judicial controversies; and in the reign of *Athelstan* the city was divided into four hundreds, or wards, over each of which was placed an Alderman.

These wards continue to this time, and are denominated the East, West, North, and South wards. In times of war, or danger, the whole government, civil and military, was lodged in the hands of the Earls of *Devon;* under whom were the *Vicecomes*, or Sheriffs; and the *Thanes*, or chief military officers; who held lands of the King by a kind of military tenure, somewhat similar to that of the feudal barons after the *Norman* conquest: the Bishops likewise acted as judges in conjunction with the *Earls*, and sometimes commanded in the armies in a military capacity.

We have very few of the names of the *Saxon* Earls of *Devon* handed down to us; nor is it certain whether the office was elective or hereditary.

Vortigern, (afterwards King of England) it is recorded, was Prince of the *Danmonii*, before he was elected to the throne.

Alpsius was made Earl of *Devon* by King *Athelstan*. He resided in the castle of *Excester;* it being customary in those days for the Earls to dwell in the counties from whence they took their titles. Saxon Chronicle.

Orgar was Earl of *Devon* in the reign of King *Edgar*, (as before related) the King having married his daughter. *Goda* is mentioned as Earl of *Devon* in the reign of King *Ethelred;* and to have been slain in battle by the *Danes*. *Athelmere* was Earl of *Devon* after the death of *Goda:* he treacherously deserted his sovereign, King *Ethelred;* and, joining his forces with *Sweyne*, accompanied him to the siege and destruction of *Exeter*. History of Tavistock Abbey. Saxon Earls of Devon.

Alphegus succeeded him as Earl of *Devon* in the reign of *Canute;* and after him, according to *Lambert*, *Godwin*, Earl of *Kent*, was Earl of *Devon*, *Dorset*, *Sussex*, *Hampshire*, and *Cornwall*. The unfortunate *Harold* succeeded his father as Earl of *Devon* and *Cornwall*.

End of the First Chapter.

CHAPTER II.

From the Norman Conquest to the end of the Reign of Henry VIII.

CHAP. II.

WILLIAM, on being invested with the English Crown, at first affected to govern his new subjects with great lenity; but as soon as his power was established he treated them with the greatest severity, arbitrarily seizing their lands, and dividing them among his rapacious followers. The *English* exasperated at the conduct of the *Normans* broke out into open rebellion in several parts of the kingdom; the citizens of *Exeter*, in particular, dispossessed *Baldwin de Brionis** of the castle, to whose custody it had been committed by the conqueror, and was at that time esteemed a place of the greatest importance: they repaired their walls and strengthened their fortifications, incited, it is supposed, by *Githa*, (mother of the late King *Harold)* who had taken refuge in the city, after having been deprived of her lands and dowery, to make room for the new comers.

Exeter rebles against the conqueror.

A. D. 1076.

William, heated at these commotions, marched at the head of a numerous army, and laid close siege to the city. The inhabitants, relying on the strength of their fortifications, insulted him with opprobious language from the walls, and repelled his assaults with the utmost vigour: but part of the walls falling down (which the Monkish historians attributed to Divine Providence, though with greater reason it might have been occasioned by machines used by the besiegers) the citizens were compelled to surrender. The conqueror, contrary to his usual practice, granted them favorable terms, renewed their ancient privileges, and only altered the gates of the castle as a token of his victory.

Besieged and taken.

King William's clemency.

Having subdued the rebels, and quieted the internal commotions, yet despairing of the good will of the stubborn *English* by lenity, he had recourse to the most rigorous laws. He punished the insurgents without mercy, depriving them of their possessions, and bestowing them on the *Normans;* he abolished the ancient *Saxon* laws, and established those of *Normandy;*

* This *Baldwin* had been created by the conqueror Baron of *Oakhampton*, and hereditary Viscount of *Devon;* and, in consequence of that office, had the custody of, and residence in, the castle.

seized the treasures of the monasteries; deprived the *English* of all places of trust; imposed a feudal tenure on all lands belonging to the crown; and made a new law, by which every one of his *English* subjects was compelled, on the penalty of death, to put out their fires and candles, at the sound of a bell, at eight o'clock at night.* This was named the curfew, or coverfire. He also caused a general survey to be made of all the lands in the kingdom, and to be entered into a Book called Doomsday-book, (which is still existing) and laid a tax of six shillings upon every hide of land.† Arbitrary Laws.

In Doomsday-book it is recorded that "*Exeter did not geldt* ‡ *but when London, York, and Winchester did, that was a mark of silver for a Knight's fee, in case of an expedition by land or sea, it served after the rate of five hides: at the time of this survey the King had in this city three hundred and fifteen houses; it paid fifteen pounds a year, and that forty-eight houses were destroyed after the King came to England.*" Cambden.

During the remainder of this King's reign, *Exeter* enjoyed the blessings of peace, and greatly increased in splendor and number of inhabitants, which arose partly from the additional privileges and immunities granted to it, and from the number of *Normans* who settled in it. § It appears also from our ancient historians, that the citizens, even in those days, carried on a large trade with foreign countries; and that the change of government, instead of being detrimental, was rather beneficial, and increased the opulence of the inhabitants. William of Malmsbury

In an old manuscript, entitled "*Chronicon Exoniensis Ecclesiæ desineas in obitu Johannis de Grandisono, Episc.*" preserved in the Bodlean Library, the following awful visitation is thus described:—"A. D. 1080, in the middle of the night of the birth of our Lord, a terrible and unaccustomed noise, with lightning and thunder, suddenly came with a motion of the earth, and caused great ruins of houses: it struck fear unto the hearts of all, so that all trembled at the judgment of God himself happening to them." What is very remarkable is, that this circumstance is not recorded by any other historian, there- 1080. Awful Visitation.

* There is still some part of this custom remaining in *Exeter;* the Cathedral bell tolling every night at eight o'clock; and which is still termed "the Bell warns."

† A hide of land contained 100 Acres.

‡ To *geldt,* was to pay the quota of taxes, hence the term of Guildhall, anciently written Geldthall.

§ Soon after the conquest *William* introduced a great number of Jews into the kingdom, from *Normandy;* and it is probable that some of those industrious traders settled in *Exeter;* for we find in record that, in the reign of *Henry* the Third, the manor of *South Hole,* in this county, was mortgaged by *William,* son of *Richard de Hole,* to a Jew, of *Exeter;* and which was seized by that Monarch. —*Risdon's Survey of Devon.*

CHAP. II. fore it is very probable that this dreadful storm and concussion of the earth was confined to *Exeter* and its neighbourhood, registers of this sort being kept in all collegiate churches, monasteries, &c.

A. D. 1080. King *William*, in the year 1080, founded the Abbey of *Battle*, in *Sussex*, on the spot where the famous battle of *Hastings* was fought; and gave to it, as a cell, the church of *St. Olave*, in this city.

1087. *William* died in 1087, and was succeeded by his second son, *William*, surnamed (from his red hair) *Rufus*.

William II. *Robert*, his eldest brother, who, by his father's will, enjoyed the Dukedom of *Normandy*, demanded the crown in right of succession, and was supported in his claim by a great number of the *Norman* Barons: but *William* having gained the good will of the *English* nation, by his promises of restoring their ancient laws, soon compelled the rebels to submit; and the steady allegiance of his *English* subjects, biasing the Monarch in their favor, he greatly added to the privileges of several cities, among which, *Exeter* had a share of his bounty.

William, however, soon forgot his promises; he made several arbitrary laws, and particularly such as regarded the preservation of the game, not only in his own forests and domains, but throughout his whole dominions. The penalty inflicted by these laws was death, or the loss of limb, for the killing of deer, or any other game; and these laws, it is said, were the principal foundation of the present existing game laws.

Priory of St. Nicholas founded. It has been already mentioned that the late King gave the church of *St. Olave*, in this city, to the Monks of the Abbey of *Battle;* the said Abbot and Monks, assisted therein by *Rufus*,

A. D. 1089. founded the *Priory of St. Nicholas*, on a vacant spot near the said church, which, by subsequent benefactions, rose to great power and wealth, as will be noticed in the course of this history. To this priory the king gave a close of land, situated within the city walls, and called, from the donation, *Fryers-hays* (now *St. Bartholomew's* burying-ground:) he also gave to the

St. Nicholas fair granted. Prior a charter to hold an annual fair on the festival of *St. Nicholas*, being the 6th day of December; and likewise a moiety of a fair, held in this city long before the conquest,

Lammas fair. called *Crollditch*, now *Lammas* fair, to him and his successors for ever.

The death of *William Rufus*, which happened on the 2d of August, 1100, (he being accidentally shot, by an arrow which had glanced against a tree, while hunting in *New Forest*, in *Hampshire*) made room for his younger brother, *Henry*, surnamed *Beauclerk*, who succeeded him.

1100. *Henry*, taking advantage of the absence of his eldest brother,

Henry I. *Robert*, who was then in the *Holy-land*, seized on the vacant throne; and, in order to secure himself thereon, placed his greatest confidence on the *English* nation, who were, by far,

the bulk of the people. He began his reign (in 1100) by granting to his subjects a very advantageous charter, confirming several privileges they enjoyed under the *Saxon* Monarchs; restoring the laws of *Edward* the *Confessor;* and reforming the abuses which had crept into the government during the two former reigns, through the insolence of the *Normans*. He likewise abolished the *curfew* law; the tax called *Dane-geldt*, so odious to his subjects; and granted great immunities to the principal cities and boroughs of his dominions. The citizens of *Exeter* received marks of his bounty, by his granting them a new charter, and confirming to them all the privileges they had been granted by the *Saxon* government.

New charter granted.

Henry married *Maud* (or *Matilda*) daughter to *Malcolm*, King of *Scotland*, and grand-daughter to the *Saxon* King, *Ethelred*, by which, in some measure, the ancient line of succession was restored. This greatly endeared him to his *English* subjects. On his marriage, he granted to his said wife, *Maud*, (as appears by the charters still extant) the Fee-farm Rents of this City, estimated then at £25 a year—a great sum in those days.

Rent of Exeter granted to Queen Maud.

In the charter granted to *Exeter* by this King, their ancient rights were fully confirmed; and, it says "they should be free from scot, and lot, and *Dane-geldt;* and that they should not geldt, but when *London*, *York* and *Winchester* geldted; that they should enjoy their full pleadings and amerciaments within their own walls, as was customary at that time in the city of *London*."

King *Henry* first instituted the present form of the high court of parliament. Before his time the nobility and bishops only were called to consult about the most important affairs of state: but he caused knights, from the different counties, and citizens and burgesses, from the principal places in the kingdom, to be assembled; and divided the parliament into three Estates, the nobility, the clergy, and the commons: these represented the whole body of the people; and he appointed them to sit in several chambers, the King, Bishops, and Lords in one, and the commons in another.

Parliaments first instituted.

It seems probable that this city sent its representatives to this meeting, though we have no account mentioned of it, the parliamentary rolls not commencing till the 23d year of *Edward* the First.

Record tells us that the King reserved to himself the appointment of Portreeves, or chief Magistrates; and that guilds, or fraternities, were first established, under certain regulations, for the better government of trades and mysteries: and that the inhabitants enjoyed the greatest blessings of plenty in this King's reign. As much wheat was sold for 12d. as would suffice 100 people for a day, and a fat sheep for a groat.

Great plenty.

CHAP. II.

A. D. 1118. In the year 1118 Queen *Maud* gave to the church and canons of the *Holy Trinity*, within *Aldgate*, in the city of London, two parts of the rent and revenues of this city, then valued at £25 a year.

1135. King *Henry* died on the 1st of December, 1135, and was succeeded by *Stephen*, Earl of *Blois*, grandson of *William* the conqueror, by his daughter *Adelais*.

Stephen. *Stephen* having, through the intrigues of his brother, *Henry*, bishop of *Winchester*, (the Pope's legate) and the privileges he promised to grant the *English*, got possession of the throne, notwithstanding the lawful pretensions of the *Empress Maud*, only surviving child of the late King *Henry*, was crowned at *Westminster*, on the 26th day of December, 1135. He gave his subjects a very advantageous charter, and acknowledged that he possessed the crown by no other tenure than the election of the people and the clergy; notwithstanding, however, these great concessions, the barons made an almost general insurrection against him; among these, *Baldwin de Riparis* (or *Rivers*) Earl of *Devon*, fortified the castle of *Exeter*, and the citizens, taking part with the *Empress Maud*, refused the King admittance into their city; he immediately invested it with a great army, and laid close siege to it. This siege continued for upwards of two months; at length the inhabitants were compelled by famine to surrender: Earl *Baldwin* fled to the *Isle of Wight*, to which the King followed him, drove him thence, and banished him with his whole family. *Baldwin* returned in the reign of *Henry* II. and enjoyed all his lands and honours; and we find that he possessed, in the county of *Devon*, no less than 159 lordships; and had in the city of *Exeter* 19 houses.

Exeter besieged and taken by K. Stephen.

Siege of Exeter Castle. The siege of *Exeter* castle by King *Stephen*, in the year 1140, is thus described in *Gesta regis Stephani apud Duchesn*, *page* 934:—"The castle of *Exeter* is built on a lofty mount, surrounded with impenetrable walls, strengthened with Cæsarian towers. In this castle *Baldwin de Riparis* placed a garrison, composed of valiant youths, the flower of all *England*, to defend it against the King, to whom he had bound them by a solemn oath, and putting under their protection his wife and children. When the King invested the castle, they mounted the walls in shining armour, and treated him and his army with scorn and defiance. Sometimes they sallied out from their secret passages, when least expected, and put many of the besiegers to the sword: sometimes they poured down showers of arrows, darts, and other weapons on the assailants. On the other hand, the King and his Barons laboured with the greatest ardour to distress the garrison. Having formed a very strong and well-armed body of foot, he assaulted the barbican, and, after a fierce and bloody struggle, carried it. He next beat down with his engines the bridge of communication

between the castle and the city; after which he erected lofty towers of wood, with wonderful art, to protect his men, and enable them to return the discharges from the walls. In a word he gave the besieged no rest, either by day or night. Sometimes he drew up all the slingers of his army, and threw into the castle an intolerable shower of stones. Sometimes he employed the most skilful miners to undermine the foundations of the walls. He made use of machines of many different kinds, some of which were very lofty, for inspecting what they were doing within the castle; and others very low, for battering and beating down the walls. The besieged mading a bold and masterly defence, baffled all his machinations, with most astonishing dexterity. After this siege had lasted three months, and King *Stephen* had expended upon it, in machines, arms, and other things, no less than 15,000 marks, equal to £150,000 of the present money, the besieged were compelled to surrender for want of water."

This account of the most extraordinary valour and determined opposition of the citizens of *Exeter* to King *Stephen* is stated, in the work from which it was extracted, to have been recorded by an eye witness.

A. D. 1153.

The war between *Stephen* and the *Empress Maud* continued until the year 1153, with various success of the contending parties. Every petty Baron, or Lord of a Manor, fortifying his house, or castle, from whence, by frequent sallies, they plundered the surrounding country, robbed the travellers, and committed the most horrid depredations on those poor defenceless inhabitants who refused to join them, or become their retainers.

Distress of the country

The neighbouring barons often engaged in pitched battles, so that the whole kingdom was a scene of blood and horror until the reign of Prince *Eustace*, only son of *Stephen*, when a reconciliation took place among the contending parties, and *Stephen* adopted *Henry*, son of the *Empress Maud*, for his successor; securing to himself the *English* crown till his death.

During the continuance of these civil commotions the city of *Exeter* stood firm to the interest of the *Empress:* and, for many years after her decease, held an anniversary to her memory, called Queen *Maud's* obit day.

1154.

Stephen did not long enjoy the happiness of peace; he died in the following year, and was succeeded by *Henry*, the *Empress Maud's* son; he was the first King of the line of the *Plantagenets*, and his accession to the throne was with the universal satisfaction of his subjects, as he had the advantage of being descended both from the *Saxon* and *Norman* Kings of *England*.

Henry II.

CHAP. II.

He began his reign by clearing the kingdom of the great number of foreigners who had been invited over to the assistance of the late King, and by reducing the power of the overgrown barons; he took their castles into his own hands, most of them he ordered to be demolished, reserving only those which he thought proper for the defence of the kingdom; the number of those demolished amounted to 1115, (according to *Speed.*) Among those he possessed in his own hands, was that of *Exeter*, which he strongly fortified by additional works: and to reward the citizens for their steady adherence to the cause of his mother, he confirmed their former privileges, and granted them a new charter, by which they were exempted from all customs and town duties, throughout the whole kingdom of *England*, both by land and water: he also granted them to enjoy the same rights and immunities which had been possessed by their ancestors before the *Norman* conquest, and which they had been deprived of by preceding Monarchs; he gave them the custody of the castle, with liberty to strengthen the walls and fortifications: thus, during his long reign of thirty-five years, this city flourished, increased its commerce, and had the blessings of peace, notwithstanding the troubles which his disobedient sons, and turbulent barons, occasioned to their Monarch. He also "divided his kingdom into six several circuits, appointing in every circuit three judges, who twice every year should ride together, to hear and determine causes between man and man."

Speed's History of England.

New charter granted by Hen. II.

Baker's Chronicle.

Henry ordered that every citizen possessed of a knight's fee, should provide a pair of cuirasses, shield, and spear; and every layman that had goods and revenues to the value of 16 marks, a pair of cuirasses, helmet, and shield; and every inhabitant worth 10 marks, an habergeon, a steel cap, and a spear; that they might at all times be ready to defend the city committed to their care.

Henry's order to the citizens to provide themselves with arms, &c.

The liberty of burial in *Exeter* was at this time given to the jews, many of whom where then resident therein; and a similar right was also extended to every other part of the kingdom; but prior to this no jew could be buried in any other place but *London*, however great the inconvenience occasioned by their removal from remote situations.

Jews buried in Exeter.

1164. In the year 1164 *William Fitz Ralph* founded an Almshouse in this city, for certain poor people, and dedicated it to *St. Alexis:** this foundation continued about seventy years,

* It is probable that this house was situated in *Gandy's Lane*, anciently called *St. Lucie's Lane*, a common abridgment for *St. Alexis*.

when it was dissolved, and added, by the Mayor and citizens, to the then newly-erected Hospital of *St. John*, within the East-gate.

About the same period *Baldwin de Rivers*, Earl of *Devon*, founded the priory of *St. James*, near *Exeter*, for monks of the Cluniac order, which he endowed with great revenues; the said foundation was confirmed by the *Empress Maud*, *Richard*, son of the founder, and *Robert Chichester*, bishop of *Exeter*, A. D. 1156; it was a cell to the Abbey of *St. Martin*, at *Paris*, until made denizen in the reign of *Henry* V.

St. James's Priory founded.

The church of this priory was destroyed by *Richard Duke, Esq.* of *Mount Radford*, for the sake of the materials. Great part of the old buildings remained until the year 1760, when they were taken down, and a farm-house erected on the site: it is still termed the old Abbey, and a dam across the river *Exe* is still called *St. James's* weir.

King *Henry* died in *Normandy*, A. D. 1189; and was succeeded by his son, *Richard*, surnamed *Cœur de Lion;* he confirmed the privileges granted by his father to this city; but soon after his coronation, he engaged in a crusade for the recovery of the *Holy-land*, then recently conquered from the *Christians* by the *Saracens*. In this he was followed by great numbers of his barons, with their retainers; and though it drained the nation of such a multitude of its useful inhabitants, yet it was attended with consequences highly beneficial to the remainder. The survivors who returned brought home with them many useful arts and manufactures, before unknown; and which contributed greatly to soften the ferocious manners of the people, as well as increase their commerce.

A. D. 1189.

Richard I.

The city of *Exeter* had a great share of the blessing, and its opulence was most considerably enlarged, together with the number of its inhabitants. The authors of that time mention it as a city respectable for its trade, strength, and number of inhabitants; and a place of the first consequence in the western parts of *England*.

This King, as well as his father, increased the freedom of the people, and diminished the power of the barons, by granting corporation charters, from which the different trades were formed into guilds, or fraternities (as they were then called) and had great and exclusive privileges. The people now began to have some share of power and weight in the government; and this greatly lessened the feudal system, and raised the opulence of the cities and borough towns.

Charters first granted to different trades.

CHAP. II.

Great scarcity.

In the latter part of this King's reign there was almost a continual rain, for three or four years successively, which occasioned such a scarcity of corn that wheat was sold at 18*s.* 8*d.* the quarter, (a sum almost equivalent to £4 at this present time;) this brought on a great mortality among the common people, insomuch that the living were scarce able to bury the dead.

Richard, after great successes in the *Holy-land*, (where the *English* gained immortal honour) was treacherously deserted by the *French King*, and obliged to enter into a truce with *Saladine*, Emperor of the *Saracens*, for three years. On his return home he was shipwrecked on the coast of *Aquileia*, in *Italy;* and attempting to travel in disguise through *Germany*, he was discovered and basely imprisoned, by *Leopold*, Duke of *Austria*, who kept him close confined for upwards of fifteen months, until the sum of 150,000 marks was agreed on to be paid for his ransom; this sum was cheerfully raised by his subjects; the churches and monasteries melting down their plate, and the rest by voluntary contributions; the quota raised by the citizens of *Exeter*, (as mentioned by *Rymer*, in his *Fœdera*) amounted to near one thousand marks, a convincing proof of its opulence at this period.

A. D. 1194.

Richard returned from his captivity in the year 1194, and was received by his subjects with great joy. In return for their loyalty in his distress he confirmed their privileges,

New charter granted.

in particular of those cities which had most distinguished themselves towards his release: among those the city of *Exeter* is mentioned—"*the King granted them a new charter, which confirmed to them all their ancient rights and privileges.*"

1199.

Richard was shot by an arrow from a cross bow, at the siege of a castle in *France*, and was succeeded by his brother *John*.

John.

John, on his accession, endeavoured to curtail the influence of the barons, and to curb the power of the clergy; the latter, in those days of ignorance and superstition, having usurped almost the whole government into their own hands. *John*, by this step, created many enemies, and the whole kingdom was thrown into the miseries of an intestine war. John being greatly necessited for money to pay the foreign auxiliaries brought over to his assistance, exacted enormous contributions from his subjects; and this, added to the intrigues of the church of *Rome*, and the rebellious instruments of the then Pope, *Innocent*, the Bishops of *London*, *Bath*, and *Winchester*, who put the whole kingdom under an interdict of excommunication, occasioned nearly a general revolt from his authority.

Thus situated, *John* endeavoured to secure to his interest the principal cities and borough towns, by enlarging their privileges, granting fresh charters, and giving them power to choose their own magistrates: in consequence a charter was granted to the citizens of *Exeter*, in the year 1200, by which they were empowered to elect, yearly, a chief magistrate, by the name of *Mayor*, and two *Bailiffs*, or *Stewards*. Before this, the *Provosts*, or *Rulers* (from the time of the *Norman* conquest) were nominated by the Earls of *Devon*, which gave them great influence over the citizens; but, from this year, the list of Mayors and Bailiffs commences, and which has continued to the present time without any interruption. The charter was nearly in the following words:—

A. D. 1200.

New charter, with power to choose a Mayor, &c.

"*John*, by the grace of God, greeting. Know ye that we have granted, and, by this our present writing, do confirm, to our citizens of our city of *Excester;* that they may choose to themselves every year a Mayor, who to us may be faithful, discreet, and fit for the government of our said city; and likewise, that they may, and do choose, two discreet and sober citizens, to assist the said Mayor, in the office of Bailiffs; and that the said Mayor and Bailiffs shall swear to be faithful to us; and that it shall be lawful for the said citizens, at the end of the year, to remove the said Mayor or Bailiffs, and substitute others in their room, if they will, or the same to retain. We likewise and hereby do grant unto our said citizens, and by this present charter do confirm, that they will, and in peace, freely and quietly, and wholly, have all the liberties, gabels, and customs, (reserving to ourselves the fee-farm rents, and the appointment of a coroner of our said city) which have been granted to them by our predecessors."*

Distress of the nation.

The ill government of the King gave great discontent to the Barons; they assembled a powerful army, and *John* strengthened himself with a number of foreigners, who flocked to his standard for the sake of the plunder which they promised themselves they should obtain from the unhappy *English*. The whole kingdom was a scene of rapine and bloodshed; every petty Baron fortifying his castle, and bidding defiance to the laws; while the King, at the head of a ferocious army

* There is no date affixed to this charter; but, as it is evident that *Henry Rifford* was Mayor in the year 1200, and that this charter was granted by King *John*, there can be no doubt of its being the original grant to elect their chief Magistrate by that name; which was 13 years before the like privilege was granted to the city of *London*, as it appears by the charter granted to the Barons of *London* in the year 1213.

CHAP. II.

of unprincipled foreigners, ravaged the country. In this state of confusion numbers flocked for refuge to the fortified cities and boroughs, where, after residing a year and a day unclaimed by the Lords to whom they were vassals, they were enrolled in the guilds, and enjoyed all the privileges and franchises of the former citizens and burgesses. By this means the cities and towns increased greatly in the number of inhabitants, as well as in their opulence; every valuable moveable having been conveyed into them for the sake of security. The city of *Exeter* continued stedfast in its loyalty to the King, and flourished in population and wealth.

Exeter increases in Population.

John having, by the help of his foreign troops, dispossessed the Barons of most of their castles and fortified places, they, in despair, solicited help from *Philip*, King of *France*, who, hoping to add *England* to his other dominions, sent over his son *Lewis*, at the head of 40,000 troops; these were joined by the Barons, with all their forces; and the citizens of *London* deserting their King, received *Lewis* within their walls. The Pope again interdicted the whole nation; by this terrible sentence a stop was immediately put to divine service, and the administering of all the sacraments, except baptism: the church doors were shut, and the images of the saints laid on the ground. The dead were refused burial, and were thrown into ditches, and on the highways, without any funeral ceremony. Marriages were celebrated in the church-yards; the people were forbid the use of flesh meats; they were debarred from all pleasure; from shaving their beards; from saluting each other; and were absolved from all allegiance to their sovereign.

Hollingshead.

The Pope excommunicates the whole kingdom.

Notwithstanding this deplorable state, when plunder, destruction, and slavery, overspread the whole kingdom like a deluge, the citizens of *Exeter* continued firm in the King's interest, and refused admittance to the revolted Barons, or their adherents. In the year 1216 the King sent a commission to *Robert de Courtenay*, who was at that time *Viscount* of *Devon*, and governor of *Exeter* castle, to take into the said city *William Brewere*, with all his forces, if he thought his own, with that of the citizens, were not sufficient for the defence thereof; and that if he could not defend the city, then to retire into the castle. In the same year the King commanded *Peter de Malolan* to deliver to the chaplain of *Robert de Courtenay*, thirty pounds to pay the garrison soldiers in the castle of *Exeter*. In the midst of these confusions

A. D. 1216. Commission sent to the Earl of Devon to defend Exeter.

Money sent to pay the Soldiers in the Castle.

John left life and his troublesome crown, and was succeeded by his eldest son, *Henry*.*

MAYORS and *BAILIFFS* in the reign of King John.

1200.	1206.	1212.
Henry Rifford.	*Henry Rifford.*	*John Fitz Robert.*
Walter Zooch.	Henry Jennings.	Richard Forrester.
Peter Way.	George Spelman.	Andrew Thring.
1201.	**1207.**	**1213.**
Henry Rifford.	*Henry Rifford.*	*William Blondy.*
Thomas Erming.	Stephen Weildy.	Henry Milton.
Jeffery Wayland.	John Fitzhenry.	John Treby.
1202.	**1208.**	**1214.**
Henry Rifford.	*John Fitz Robert.*	*William Blondy.*
Abraham Ayloff.	Adam Lyford.	William Might.
Richard Perkins.	Thomas Gyllam.	John Molton.
1203.	**1209.**	**1215.**
Henry Rifford.	*John Fitz Robert.*	*William Blondy.*
Thomas Nevil.	Walter Delve.	Roger Needham.
Aldred Skinner.	Peter Dyer.	Walter Bender.
1204.	**1210.**	**1216.**
Henry Rifford.	*John Fitz Robert.*	*Walter Turbett.*
William Robins.	Richard Kerswell.	Laurence Elkin.
William Legrave.	Henry Atwood.	Richard Falson.
1205.	**1211.**	
Henry Rifford.	*John Fitz Robert.*	
John Mellifluer.	John Thurland.	
Walter Delve.	William Rugg.	

John, at his decease, left two legitimate sons, *Henry*, who succeeded his father, and *Richard*, afterwards Earl of *Cornwall*. A. D. 1216.

* It is not mentioned by any of our historians whether *King John* ever had any personal residence in *Exeter;* but there is a very ancient tradition that, in his troubles, he resided for some time in an old house, in *South-gate-Street*, then called *Cook-row;* it is now occupied by *Mr. Henry Flashman*, Cabinet-maker; it is further said that from *John's* residing there it obtained the name of *King John's* palace, or entry.

CHAP. II. Henry III. *Henry* was accordingly proclaimed King, by the Earl of *Pembroke*, marshal of the late King's army, and such other barons who had continued in their allegiance; and was crowned at *Gloucester*. His party was greatly increased by 40 of the principal barons, who had been in arms against his father, who taking compassion on the King's youth, and the miserable state of their country, (being also disgusted with the arrogance of *Lewis* and his *French* followers,) deserted their cause, and joined the royal standard: this decrease of *Lewis's* army obliged him to sue for a truce, and hasten to *France* for supplies.

During his absence his army, and the discontented barons, were totally defeated by the King's troops, at *Lincoln*. *Lewis* returned; but his supplies being cut off at sea, by a fleet which had been fitted out from the *Cinque Ports*, and western coasts, he was forced to sue for peace, and abandon the kingdom, leaving the rebellious barons, and their associates, to the mercy of the royal party.

A. D. 1217. Peace being thus happily established, the young King began to shew great marks of favor to the city of *Exeter*, as a reward for its stedfast loyalty to his father, by granting the citizens a fresh charter, in which he not only renewed, but increased, their privileges.

New charter granted.

1218. This year there was a great contest between *Henry*, son of *Reginald*, Earl of *Cornwall*, and *Robert de Courtenay*, Viscount of *Devon*, concerning the government of the castle of *Exeter*, which *Robert de Courtenay* claimed as his hereditary right, descending to him from his ancestors: this *Henry* took from him, and kept it for some time. At length, however, by command of the King, it was delivered up to the said *Robert de Courtenay*, as being part of his barony of *Oakhampton*. Notwithstanding this order of the King the contest continued; but,

Contest concerning the custody of the Castle.

1219. on the 28th of March, 1219, the King committed the custody of the said castle and County of *Devon* to *Robert de Albermarle:* however, in the month of May following, *Robert de Courtenay* was put in full possession of it again; and this was confirmed by the King's grant, A. D. 1223.

1222. This year the parishes of the city of *Exeter* were regulated; and the parish churches reduced to 19.

1223. *Stephen Langton*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, a native of this City, divided the whole Bible into chapters.

1227. This year the King gave the city of *Exeter* to his brother *Richard*, Earl of *Cornwall* and King of the *Romans*, and to his heirs for ever; of which Earldom and Dutchy it hath ever since continued a part; and it is now held of the said Dutchy,

Exeter given to Richard, Earl of Cornwall.

by the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Citizens paying an annual fee-farm rent at the said Dutchy court. CHAP. II.

The harvests having failed for two succeeding years, owing to continual rains, which caused great overflowings of the rivers, there was so great a scarcity of provisions that the people were reduced to the greatest distress, being obliged to eat *horse-flesh*, and to substitute *bark of trees for bread:* a great mortality consequently ensued, and (it is recorded) upwards of 20,000 persons were starved to death in the city of *London* only. A. D. 1230. Great scarcity. Speed.

About the year 1236 *William Brewer*, Bishop of *Exeter*, founded a priory of *Benedictine Nuns*, at *Posseloo*, (now *Polsloe)* near the said city, which he dedicated to *St. Catherine*. He also gave to the said priory the valuable manor of *Polsloe*, and it was enriched by many other benefactors: it continued until the general suppression of monasteries. Great part of the ancient building is still standing, and is converted into a farm-house; it is now the property of *Montague Parker, Esq.* It was valued at the dissolution, according to *Speed*, at £170 2*s.* 3*d.* per annum, but *Risdon*, in his *Survey of Devon*, says only £72 3*s.* 2*d.* 1236. Polsloe Priory founded.

King *Henry*, as he advanced in years, assumed the government into his own hands, and proved very unfit for the arduous task. He was in his temper mild and humane, but weak, fickle, and irresolute; and he highly disgusted his subjects by the preference he gave to foreigners, numbers of whom he invited over from *Normandy*, and preferred to the most lucrative offices in church and state. The disgust rose to such a height that the Barons refused to assemble at a general council of the nation, though summoned by the King, and sent a messenger to desire him to dismiss his foreigners, or otherwise they would drive both them and him out of the kingdom. The differences between the King and his Barons continued for many years; and *Robert de Courtenay*, who held the castle of *Exeter*, joining the other Barons against the King, was ordered to deliver up the said castle to *Peter de Rivaux*, a *Poictovin*, who was at that time the chief favorite at court, and who had engrossed most of the great offices of state to himself. The *Lord Courtenay*, being now unable to resist the King's power, was compelled to submit; and was deprived of the government of the castle, which had been enjoyed by him and his ancestors for upwards of 200 years. The Castle of Exeter taken from the Lord Courtenay.

In the year 1255 the Pope, having treacherously reduced the kingdom of *Sicily* to a state of vassalage, offered the 1255.

CHAP. II. crown to King *Henry*, for his second son, *Edmund*. The King, dazzled by this proposal, accepted the offer without consulting his parliament, and gave the Pope unlimited credit to expend whatever sums he thought necessary for completing the conquest of *Sicily:* in consequence of this grant his holiness exerted his apostolical authority to the utmost, and extorted vast sums of money from the *English*, by taxations, both on the clergy and laity: added to this the Bishop of *Hereford*, then resident at the court of *Rome*, drew bills on the Bishops and Abbots to the amount of 150,540 marks, (an amazing sum in those days) which the Pope pretended he had advanced for the support of the *Sicilian* war. This occasioned an assembly of the Prelates and Abbots, when they refused compliance, and joined the Barons against the King; but, through the artful persuasions of the Pope's legate, the Clergy submitted, and the Barons were compelled to have recourse to their arms, after expostulating in vain against the misgovernment of the King and his foreign ministers.

Barons appear in arms against the King.

Driven to great exigencies for the want of money to pay his foreign mercenaries, and to satisfy the avarice of the court of *Rome*, *Henry* was reduced to the most humiliating expedient of going himself to the houses of such as he judged continued faithful to him and begging their assistance. The Barons pitied the distress of their Monarch, and once more desired him to call a parliament. The King complied with their request, promised to redress all their grievances, and renew the great charter of the people; and this was accordingly done with more than usual solemnity—all the Bishops and Abbots were assembled with burning tapers in their hands, the *Great Charter* was read in their presence, and they denounced sentence of excommunication upon all who should make the least infringement of its contents: they then put their tapers out, on the ground, and exclaimed "*may every soul that proves false to this agreement, so stink and corrupt in hell!*" the King subjoined, "*so help me God, I will inviolably keep all these things, as I am a man, as I am a christian, as I am a knight, and as I am a King crowned and anointed.*"

Dreadful oath.

Henry had no sooner received the supplies granted to him than he forgot his late engagements to his people; he evaded and broke through all the charters which he had solemnly sworn to maintain; he gave himself up entirely to the directions of his foreign ministers, and garrisoned the principal castles with mercenary foreign soldiers. The *English* nobility were so exasperated that they formed a powerful

Barons again take arms.

confederacy against him, headed by *Simon Mountfort*, Earl of *Leicester*, and to which the King's own brother, *Richard*, Earl of *Cornwall* and King of the *Romans*, acceded, and, for his better security, retired into the castle of *Exeter*, which (after having turned out the foreign governor and soldiers) he strongly fortified.

Richard, Earl of Cornwall, garrisons Exeter Castle.

The King, alarmed by the great preparations making against him, once more promised to govern in conformity to the laws, and to redress the grievances of his subjects. He accordingly issued his orders for assembling a new parliament, by which it was enacted that four knights should be returned for each county, and that there should be three sessions held every year; that a new high sheriff should be annually elected for each shire; that no garrison or castle within the kingdom should be intrusted to foreigners; no new forest made, nor the revenues of any counties be let to farm.

The principal Barons having, by these concessions, obtained the government into their own hands, took care not to part with it again; but they greatly abused the trust, not only abridging the authority of the King, but the efficiency of parliament also. They elected twelve of their members, who usurped all the power of government; and who, instead of redressing the people's grievances, studied only their own interest and aggrandizement. The clergy and commons were justly incensed against them; and they petitioned Prince *Edward*, the King's eldest son, to interpose his authority, and save the sinking nation.

The people loudly complained of the tyranny of the Barons; and the Pope having absolved the King and his subjects from the oath imposed upon him and them, another parliament was convened, and the King reinstated in his authority. The differences between him and the Barons continued for more than four years: several bloody battles were fought, in one of which the King and his brother *Richard* (who had been reconciled to him) were taken prisoners by *Leicester*. In this miserable condition the kingdom continued until the year 1265; when *Leicester*, in order to secure himself, called a parliament, in which, besides the Barons of his own party, he ordered returns to be made of two knights from every shire, and also deputies from each of the cities and boroughs. This parliament was convened on the 20th of January, 1265, and is the first outline of the *English* House of Commons, that great palladium of *British* liberty.

A. D. 1265.

House of Commons first instituted.

CHAP. II.

The King and Prince *Edward* still continued prisoners, and were treated by *Leicester* with great severity; but the Prince, escaping from his confinement, was soon at the head of a numerous army: he gave *Leicester* battle near *Evesham*, in *Worcestershire*, where he obtained a complete victory. *Leicester* and his eldest son were both slain, and the surviving Barons submitted themselves to the King on the promise of his fulfilling the articles of the great charter; civil discord ceased, and, to the great joy of the nation, peace was once more restored, which continued for the remainder of this King's reign.

During the time of these unhappy differences *Exeter* continued firm in the King's interest, to which the almost constant residence of *Richard*, Earl of *Cornwall*, in *Exeter* castle greatly contributed; and the Barons made no attempt on it, though they committed great devastations in its neighbourhood.

Charter renewed.

The King, in return for its loyalty, renewed their charters; granted fresh privileges, which were confirmed by the King's brother, *Richard*, to whom he had given this city, as an appendage to his Earldom of *Cornwall;* and the Earl greatly interested himself at all times in favor of the citizens.*

Confirmed by the Earl of Cornwall

A great Plague.

In 1234 the Plague was brought into this kingdom, by the crusaders returning from the *Holy-land*, and made great ravages in this city, as more than two-thirds of the inhabitants died by it.

St. John's Hospital founded.

In 1238 the hospital of *St. John* was founded, by *Gilbert* and *John Long*, sons of *Walter Long*, of this city; they endowed the same with all their lands. *Speed* says it was dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and that it was a house of *Franciscan Friars*. It continued until the dissolution of monasteries, in the 27th of King *Henry* VIII.; when there appeared to be on the foundation four poor alms-men, who had, yearly, 21*s.* 8*d.* each, during their lives; this pay was continued by the crown, and *Queen Elizabeth*, by her letters patent, dated 8th of November, 1562, confirmed the same, and granted to the Mayor and Aldermen the nomination of the said alms-men: the cell of *St. Alexis*, for two monks, was united to the said hospital, and it was valued at £102 12*s.* 9*d.* per annum, according to *Speed;* and the hospital at £147 12*s.* *Dugdale*, in his

* The reader, I hope, will pardon my inserting some matters here, which, in point of chronology, ought to have been inserted before, but I was unwilling to break the course of this account of the Barons' wars; in which, though the city of *Exeter* seems to have so little concern, I must beg leave to say that these frequent recourses to arms called in the interference of the commons, and that to this we owe the great and peculiar privileges granted by charters to our cities and boroughs which we now enjoy.

ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL EXETER.

Monasticon, tells us it was an hospital for five priests, nine boys, and twelve poor alms-men.

In 1248 a long contest which had been depending in law, between the *Mayor and Citizens*, Plaintiffs, and the *Dean and Chapter* of *St. Peter*, Defendants, concerning the Fee and liberties of *St. Sidwell*, was now ended, by composition made at *Launceston*, before *Richard*, Earl of *Cornwall*; *Richard*, Bishop of *Exeter*; *Roger Tinkleby*; *Gilbert Preston*; and *John Cobham*, the King's Justices of Assize, as followeth :— Isaac. Controversy settled concerning the Fee of St. Sidwell.

1. The tenants of the *Dean and Chapter*, dwelling within the city and suburbs of the same, and who do occupy any Art, Trade, or Mystery, shall at all Taxes and Talliages be taxed and assessed with the citizens, so that the said taxation be just and indifferent.

2. Also, that the Bailiff of the said *Dean and Chapter* shall levy, gather, and receive the tax, and pay it over to the *Mayor* of the said city, or his officers; but if the said Bailiff be remiss or negligent, then the officers of the *Mayor* shall and may levy and collect the same.

3. Also, that an indifferent man shall be chosen by each party, to be common Bailiff for them both; who, on his oath, shall yearly gather, and from time to time collect, of all the said Dean and Chapter's tenants, the customs of *Bagavel*, *Bethugavel*, and *Cheapengavel*.

4. Also, that all Plaints entered against any of the *Dean and Chapter's* tenants, within the said city, shall be tried and determined before the *Mayor and Bailiffs*.

5. Also, that all Plaints entered against any of the *Dean and Chapter's* tenants, dwelling within the Fee of *St. Sidwell*, shall be determined before the Bailiffs thereof.

6. Also, if any of the tenants of the said *Dean and Chapter*, being *Bakers*, or *Brewers*, are to be punished for breach of the Assize, in the Pillory or Tumbrel, the same, on the request of the Mayor, to be done within the city.

7. Also, all Pleas of the Crown to be determined by the Mayor.

Lastly, all traitors, murderers, and felons, that shall be found within the said Fee, to be apprehended by the Bailiff, and by him to be brought and delivered over to the *Mayor*.

A. D. 1257, *Walter Gervis*, *Esq.* who had been twice *Mayor* of this city, commiserating the loss of many persons who were drowned in crossing the river *Exe*, at the ford, the lower end of the city, (there being only a ferry at this time, many poor people, in order to save the ferryman's fee attempting to ford the river) he procured a collection throughout the Exe-bridge founded.

CHAP. II.

Diocess, whereby he raised 3000 marks, which he managed with such care, that he caused to be erected a fair *Bridge*, and purchased lands towards its maintenance; he further, by his last will, gave other lands of his own for the support of the said bridge, for ever, appointing the bishop of *Exeter*, *Sir William Bickley*, *Knight*, and others, executors of his said will. He also caused a chapel to be built at the east end of the said bridge, in which he was interred.*

Number of Stewards augmented.

A. D. 1258, the number of officers, joined with the mayor, for the government of the city, augmented to three.

Further augmented.

A. D. 1263, the said officers were augmented to four; of which, one to be receiver-general, for that year, of all the city's rents and revenues; at the same time, four sergeants at mace (who were termed sub-bailiffs) were appointed to be always in readiness to attend the mayor and his courts.

Sergeants at Mace appointed.

A. D. 1267, *Nicholas Ilchester* died in his mayoralty, and *Walter Chaw* was chosen in his place, to serve the office for the remainder of the year.

A long dispute was this year settled by composition, between the *Abbot* and *Convent* of *Sherborn*, and the *Mayor* and *Commonalty* of this city, concerning the passage or ferry at *Exmouth;* when it was agreed that the said Abbot should disclaim all title and interest to the said ferry, only reserving a free passage to the said Abbot and Convent, and their families, without payment of any thing; provided, that if the city's passenger be not ready, nor their passage boat in place to set them over, that then, at their own liberty, they may take any other boat for that season.

A. D. 1272.

King *Henry* died, and was succeeded by his eldest son, *Edward*.

MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of Henry III.

1217.	1219.	1221.
Roger Fitzhenry.	*Walter Turbert.*	*Roger Fitzhenry.*
William Green.	John Mintin.	William Grang.
Thomas Courtys.	Stephen Lake.	William Facy.

1218.	1220.	1222.
Walter Gervis.	*Walter Turbert.*	*Roger Fitzhenry.*
Philip Dyrling.	Walter Bellamy.	Henry Fitzhenry.
Martin Lekenn.	Robert Field.	William Hastment.

* This chapel was not built on the site of the present church, but on the other side of the way, and is now converted into a dwelling-house, occupied by Robert Andrews, a Whitesmith: very visible remains of its ancient sacred state are still to be seen. The present parish church was not erected till near one hundred years after.

1223.	1232.	1241.
Walter Gervis.	*Walter Turbert.*	*Martin Roff.*
Walter Tuleston.	Walter le Caws.	Thomas Pitcher.
Roger Monk.	Jermin Roff.	Walter Molton.
1224.	1233.	1242.
Walter Turbert.	*Hillary Blondy.*	*Martin Roff.*
Hillary Blondy.	Martin Roff.	Philip Dyer.
Martin Roff.	Walter le Caws.	Thomas le Pointon.
1225.	1234.	1243.
Walter Turbert.	*Martin Roff.*	*Martin Roff.*
William Hastment.	Walter Grang.	Philip Dyer.
John Turbert.	Philip Dyer.	Walter Molton.
1226.	1235.	1244.
Roger Fitzhenry.	*Roger Fitzhenry.*	*Adam Rifford.*
Martin Roff.	Adam Rifford.	Philip Dyer.
William Hastment.	Walter Grang.	Walter Okeston.
1227.	1236.	1245.
Walter Turbert.	*Walter Turbert.*	*Martin Roff.*
Martin Roff.	John Caporn.	Robert Molton.
John Turbert.	John Leyden.	Robert Spew.
1228.	1237.	1246.
Walter Turbert.	*Martin Roff.*	*Adam Rifford.*
Hillary Blondy.	Jeffery Strange.	John Okeston.
William Hastment.	Thomas Pitcher.	Philip Dyer.
1229.	1238.	1247.
Roger Fitzhenry.	*Martin Roff.*	*Martin Roff.*
John Turbert.	Walter Channon.	Baldwin Child.
Walter Gervis.	Philip Palmer.	Walter Okeston.
1230.	1239.	1248.
Roger Fitzhenry.	*Walter Gervis.*	*Walter Hastment.*
Hillary Blondy.	John Bushett.	Walter Good.
Walter Gervis.	John Okeston.	Hillary White.
1231.	1240.	1249.
Walter Gervis.	*Martin Roff.*	*Martin Roff.*
Martin Roff.	Thomas Pitcher.	Philip Dyer.
Eustace Fitzherbert.	Walter Molton.	Walter Okeston.

CHAP. II.

1250.
Adam Rifford.
John Okeston.
Robert Taylor.

1251.
Adam Rifford.
John Okeston.
Philip Dyer.

1252.
Martin Roff.
Philip Dyer.
Thomas Pintin.

1253.
Adam Rifford.
John Okeston.
John Windsor.

1254.
John Okeston.
Baldwin Child.
Rowland Overwill.

1255.
Hillary Blondy.
Walter Chaw.
Martin Roff, Jun.

1256.
Philip Dyer.
Thomas Houghton.
Richard Arnold.

1257.
Hillary Blondy.
Eustace Fitzherbert.
Richard Poyters.

1258.
Hillary Blondy.
Roger Fitzhenry.
Walter Chaw.
John Caporn.

1259.
Philip Dyer.
Walter Chaw.
Geffery Straung.
Martin Dirling.

1260.
Walter Okeston.
Martin Dirling.
Nicholas Ilchester.
Thomas Langdon.

1261.
Hillary White.
Richard Valtian.
John Pudding.
Philip Palmer.

1262.
Walter Okeston.
William Jeffery.
Roger Fitzhugh.
Walter Minson.

1263.
Nicholas Ilchester.
John Okeston.
Richard Tantifer.
John Feniton.
Martin Dirling.

1264.
Philip Dyer.
John Okeston.
Walter Okeston.
John Windsor.
Jervis Pintham.

1265.
Walter Okeston.
John Okeston.
Martin Dirling.
Thomas Gatepath.
Richard Tantifer.

1266.
William Dirling.
John Feniton.
Philip Blebuch.
Richard Tantifer.
John Pudding.

1267.
Nich. Ilchester, Ob.
Walter Chaw.
Philip Palmer.
Thomas Langdon.
Richard Newton.
Hugh Langdon.

1268.
Walter Okeston.
Richard Tantifer.
Hugh Falcon.
William Pening.
John Cook.

1269.
Alfred Duport.
J. Barkhampstead.
Richard Tantifer.
Philip Palmer.
John Clark.

1270.
Martin Dirling.
Richard Tantifer.
Philip Clark.
Hugh Falcon.
William Pening.

1271.
Martin Dirling.
Richard Tantifer.
William Powell.
John Cook.
Hugh Falcon.

1272.
Martin Dirling.
John Feniton.
Thomas Gatepath.
Richard Allen.
Hugh Falcon.

Prince *Edward* was in *Sicily*, on his return from the *Holy-land*, when he received the news of his father's death: and knowing the tranquillity that prevailed in his dominions, made no haste in returning home, but staid upwards of a year in *France*.

1273. This year, *Oliver*, Lord *Dinham*, (a very potent Baron in the late wars) died in this city, and was buried in the church of the Black, or Preaching Friars, (late *Bedford-house*) on the north side of the high altar; and soon after, his lady, widow of the Lord *John de Courtenay*, was buried opposite her husband, in the same church.

1274. *Edward* returned to *England*, was received by his subjects with the greatest joy, and crowned at *Westminster*, on the 19th August, 1274. He began his reign by endeavouring to correct those disorders which the civil commotions and weak administration of his father had occasioned. He kept up a system of the strictest justice; yet he is charged with being too severe to the *Jews*, by oppressing them with arbitrary taxes. He caused 280 of them to be hanged at one time, for adulterating the coin; confiscated the goods of all the rest, and banished them the kingdom; many families of whom, at that time, resided in *Exeter*.

Jews banished the kingdom.

1275. This year the king confirmed the charters formerly granted to this city; and, by his letters patent, dated 10th March, renewed to the Mayor and Citizens liberty to collect a toll from all manner of wares and merchandize brought into it to be sold, towards the paving the streets, repairing the walls, and maintaining the said city: this, in old English, is termed, *Bagavel*, *Bethugavel*, and *Cheapengavel*.

Town dues granted.

1276. The King, by his letters patent, ordered an inquisition to be held here, to enquire out certain lands and liberties concealed: when it was found, by verdict, that *Crolldítch*, alias *Lammas Fair*,* was divided into two moities, or halfen deals, between

Lammas Fair.

* *Fairs* owe their origin to an institution of Pope *Gregory*, (surnamed the Great) who soon after the conversion of the *Anglo Saxons* to Christianity, and being well acquainted with their predilection for their ancient customs of revelling and carousing, on particular days dedicated to their false deities, recommended to *Augustine* that there should be an annual celebrity in all parishes, on the vigils of the Saints' days to whom their churches were dedicated. And, for the accommodation of the visitors, small pavillions were constructed, of boughs, in the church-yards, in which they spent their nights, after prayers, in all kinds of pastime and carousals; from whence they were termed *wakes*. Hence we find that most of our marts and fairs are held on some festival, or Saint's day. To these revels the people resorted in great crowds, and great quantities of provision would consequently be wanted for their entertainment. The prospect of gain invited the little traders of the neighbouring country to

CHAP. II. King *John* and this commonalty; and that King *John* resumed the whole into his own hands, and gave it to the Prior and Convent of *St. Nicholas*. The fair was annually kept on *Southernhay*, beginning the last day of July, at noon, and continuing two whole days and a half, following: it is very ancient, and was much noted before the Conquest, and was, at that time, the sole property of the commonalty of this city, as appears by Doomsday-book, still remaining in *Westminster Abbey*. This fair, being thus divided into moieties, at length came into the hands of the Earls of *Devon*, and the Prior, &c. of *St. Nicholas*. Thus it continued until the reign of *Henry* VIII. when, at the suppression of the said Priory, the moiety belonging to it was purchased by the *Mayor and Commonalty* of this city; the other, on the attainder of *Henry Courtenay*, Marquis of *Exeter*, in the year 1535, reverted into the King's hands, as a parcel of the Manor of *Topsham*, and was given to —— *Northmore, Esq.* and was lately purchased, together with the said Manor, by the Chamber of *Exeter*, who are now the sole proprietors; and they, about seven years since, removed the said fair from *Crolldítch*, alias *Southernhay*, into the *High-Street*. On the site where the fair was formerly held an elegant pile of buildings is erected. The ancient privileges belonging to this fair are as follow:—

1. It shall continue for two whole days and two half days, beginning at twelve o'clock on Lammas eve, at noon.

2. The whole soil or plot of *Southernhay* is the Lords' of the fair during that time, and unto twelve o'clock after the end thereof.

3. The Lords may set and demise the said soil one day before the eve of the said fair.

4. That the Lords have the whole profit of the said fair.

5. Also, that they shall there have the cognizance of Pleas, and a Court of Piepoudre,* as an incident to all fairs.

come with their wares, and the ready sale they met with induced more considerable dealers and merchants to resort to them with their merchandizes. This resort being held on a *Feria*, or holiday, obtained the name of Feria, or Fair. The same among the *Saxons*, the *French*, the *Germans*, and the *Britons*—Fager, Foix, Feyer, and Faire, the word being derived from the same source in all these nations, the Latin being, at this period, the only ecclesiastical language in West *Europe*. *Fairs* are now (owing to several causes) much on the decline, and some discontinued—particularly in this city, *Magdalen* and *St. Thomas's* Fairs. The only ones now held here are on *Ash Wednesday, Whit-Monday, Lammas, and St. Nicholas's* days.

* A Piepoudre Court is to judge matters in a summary way, even *while the dust remains on the feet.*

6. Also, they have power to punish all offenders within the said fair.

7. Also, they are to have an house, or *Toll-booth*, there, and a pair of stocks.

8. No man is to sell any *wares* within the said city, or suburbs, during the said fair, on pain of forfeiting thereof to the Lords; and they may be seized on, if they lie within the reach of a man's arm.

9. The Stewards of the said fair are to examine all weights and measures, and, finding them defective, to reform the same according to law.*

A. D. 1284.

House of Grey Friars without Southgate founded.

The *Franciscan*, or *Grey Friars*, ever since their first settling in this city, had their house or residence in South-gate-street,† but finding it too small and inconvenient for their lordly stomachs, as they increased greatly in numbers, and, from begging mendicants, had become greatly enriched with lands, by the ill-judged charity of pious devotees, to a large annual amount, they obtained a grant from the Earl of *Cornwall* of all that large spot of land situated on the south side of a street then called *Larrokbeareway*, (now *Holloway*) and from the *City Ditch* to *Larrokbeare Ditch*, on which they began to build a sumptuous convent: but the then bishop, *Peter Quivill*, not willing to encourage a fraternity that greatly encroached on the prerogative of the regular clergy, endeavoured to hinder them from proceeding. They petitioned the King, who granted them a licence to continue their building, and confirmed the said foundation by his charter. Notwithstanding this the bishop stoutly continued his opposition until his death, being accidentally choaked with drinking a syrup; and the bigotted hypocrites pretended this was a judgment of the Almighty, for his opposing them in their undertaking.

Upon the King's death they finished their convent, which continued until the general suppression. The said land (being

* There is a tradition that this fair was once kept in *Exe Island*, but there happening a very great flood on the fair day, which did much damage, the fair on that account was removed to *Crolldítch*, and that, therefore, the Barons of *Oakhampton*, as Lords of the Manor of *Exe Island*, had the moiety of the profits of the said fair; but little confidence can be put in this tradition, as according to Doomsday-book, which was compiled in the year 1086, it is expressly called *Crolldítch* fair; and this is almost so soon as any Barons of *Oakhampton* were created.—*Cleveland.*

† Tradition informs us that their first residence in *Exeter* was where the Black Lions Inn is now situated; and it seems very probable, as it has the appearance of a very ancient building, and of a monastical foundation.

CHAP. II.

a separate manor) is still called *Friars-hays*, and is at this time the property of *Capt. Richard Graves*, who married the daughter of *Sir John Colleton, Bart.* the late proprietor.

A. D. 1285.

The Mayor and Bailiffs were this year (as we find on the records) chosen upon Thursday, in Passion week.

The first records of this city now remaining in the council chamber begin this year.

Citizens complain to the King.

Isabella, Countess of *Devon*, endeavouring to encroach on the liberties and privileges of the citizens, they referred their cause to the King, and pleaded that their city was an ancient demesne, and they held it in fee-farm of the crown, paying £29 15*s.* 3*d.* per annum; and to support the same they referred to the charter of *Henry* III. granted to his brother, *Richard*, Earl of *Cornwall*, the King's uncle; and by which they further challenged return of writs, a *gallows*, *pillory*, *tumbrel*, &c. and a fair of four days, beginning 31st July, at twelve noon,

Ancient Market Days.

besides three markets weekly, on *Monday*, *Wednesday*, and *Friday;* and they certified they had enjoyed these liberties before and since the conquest; in consequence of this reference

Liberties confirmed.

the King confirmed these privileges to them by his royal sign manual.

Walter Lechlade, the first precentor, was this year murdered as he came from morning prayers, (which was usually in those days at two o'clock) and this struck the clergy with such terror that they petitioned the King, who, with his Queen, came to *Exeter*, and, after a strict investigation of the said murder,

The late Mayor and the Porter of the Southgate hanged.

Alphred Duport, who had been eight times Mayor, together with the Porter of the *Southgate*, were arraigned, found guilty, and executed; it being proved that the *Southgate* was that night left open, by which means the murderer escaped, and was never after heard of. It does not appear from any accounts handed down to us that the Mayor and Porter were any way privy to, or concerned, in the murder; but only that through their misconduct, in leaving the gate open, the murderer's escape was facilitated. The King, Queen, and their suite, kept their Christmas here, and during their residence they lodged in the house of the *Black Friars*, (lately *Bedford-house)* where they continued till the beginning of the next year; when, at the King's instigation, a composition and agreement was made between the Mayor and Commonalty, on the one part, and the

St. Peter's Close enclosed with Walls and Gates.

Bishop, Dean, and Chapter, on the other part, in which the said Mayor and Citizens, for the better security of the resident clergy, gave them (by a deed) liberty to encompass the whole close and cemetery of *St. Peter*, with a high wall, and to erect

the following gates, viz: St. Michael's,* St. Martin's Berkley,† Palace Dean's, ‡ St. George's, § and St. Petrock's: ‖ but the Mayor and citizens reserved to themselves their full judicial power and privileges which they had been possessed of before this agreement. The deed is dated March the 25th, 1286, and is witnessed by the Lord *Hugh de Courtenay*, the Lord *Oliver de Dinham*, *Hugh Peverell de Sampford*, *Richard de Poltimore*, *Henry de Raleigh*, *Henry de Parle Bean*, Sheriff of *Devon*, and *Thomas de Pinn*, *Knights*. ¶

A. D. 1286.

This deed may be seen at large in Isaac.

This year the summer proved very wet, which caused great inundations; a considerable part of *Exe Bridge* was carried away by the high waters, but was again repaired at the sole charge of the citizens.

Part of Exe Bridge washed away.

King *Edward* having totally reduced the *Welch*, and by the death of their last prince, *Leoline*, (who was killed in battle) subjected them to his government, sent for his Queen, then big with her first child, to *Cærnarvon* Castle, which he had lately built; and she was there delivered of a prince, (afterwards the unfortunate *King Edward* II.) whom the Welch soon after acknowledged as their prince; and ever since that period they have remained dependent on the English nation: the eldest sons of our Monarchs always being created, soon after their births, Princes of *Wales*, though born Dukes of *Cornwall*.

Wales united to England.

Isabella de Fortibus, Countess of *Devon*, bearing ill will towards the citizens of *Exeter*, endeavoured by all means in her power to distress them; accordingly, to injure their commerce and fishery, she made a dam, or *Weir*, across the river *Exe*, at a place still called Countess *Weir*, which hindered the ships and boats from coming up to the Quay, as they had hitherto done. The citizens thereof laid their complaint before the King, who sent down *Sir Malcolm Harleigh*, his general escheator on the south of *Trent*, to make enquiry concerning the said encroachments; this was held accordingly at the Castle, when the jurors, who consisted of the principal landholders of the *Hundred of Wonford*, returned a verdict in favor of the citizens, as follows: "that the said *Isabella*, Countess of *Devon*, having erected a certain *Weir* across the river *Exe*, (which river is, and ought to be, the property of the King, in right of the city

1290.

Countess Weir made.

Citizens complain to the King.

Verdict given in their favor.

* Now Broadgate. † St. Catherine's. ‡ Beargate. § Littlestile. ‖ Now shut up: the passage is partly remaining, by the side of the Globe Tavern, a house being built where it entered into Southgate-Street, and which is now inhabited by Mrs. Perkins, a Broker.

¶ Before this time the Church-yard of St. Peter was open to the High-Street, with only a low wall, like those surrounding country church-yards; nor were any buildings erected on that side of the street.

CHAP. II.

of *Exeter*, from *Checkstone* to the bridge of the said city, called *Exe Bridge)* to the great annoyance of the citizens thereof, and the neighbouring inhabitants of the county of *Devon*, they are thereby greatly injured in their trades and fisheries."

Another inquisition was likewise held before the said *Sir Malcolm Harleigh*, who, for that purpose, kept his court at the Dean's house, within the Close, when the citizens proved upon their oaths, that the said city appertains to the crown, both before and ever since the Conquest, that the same is immediately held of the King; and that King *Henry* III. father of the present King, did give this city to his Brother, the Earl of *Cornwall*, and his heirs; and that the citizens do hold the same in fee-farm rent of the said Earl, as before they held it of the King, paying to him, yearly, £35 10*s.*; and likewise that the water and river *Exe*, for ever of old time did appertain unto the said city, from the bridge thereof unto the port of *Exmouth*; and that the fishing of the said river is, and ought to be, free and common to all men who choose to fish therein: yet, nevertheless, *Isabella*, Countess of *Devon*, about six years last past, made and raised a *Weir* across the said river, which is of such height that the fishing for and taking of salmon and other fish is destroyed above the said *Weir*, to the great damage of the citizens and inhabitants of the county of *Devon:* likewise, that boats and vessels were used to pass up and down the river, even up to the bridge of the said city, laden with wines and other merchandizes, to the great benefit of both the city and country around; but that since the erection of the said *Weir* the navigation of the river is totally destroyed, to the great damage of the inhabitants: and, further they say, that all lands and tenements within the said city may be devised and given by a last will and testament, as well as any other goods and chattels whatsoever, even in like manner as is used and accustomed in the city of *London*.

Writs confirmed by the King.

Upon the return of these writs to the King, at *Westminster*, his Majesty fully confirmed them, and sent down his royal mandate for their immediate execution, that all the nuisances complained of should be removed, and the citizens reinstated in all their former rights and privileges.

Haven almost ruined.

Notwithstanding this interference of the King, his orders were but partially obeyed; the *Weir*, instead of being entirely destroyed, was only cut through the middle, while the abutments at each end were suffered to remain, which kept back a great part of the flowing tide, and lessened the channel, by which means the sand and filth accumulated in such a manner

that it obstructed the passage, and left room only for small barges to pass up to the city; whereas before this ships of a tolerable burden would go, even to the water-port, and there unlade their merchandize.

A. D. 1292. *Ongaras de Sancto Milone*, a rich citizen of *Exeter*, gave to the Dean and Chapter the whole Manor of *Stoke Wood*, which was united to the Manor of *Stoke Canon:* this deed was witnessed by *William Gatepath*, (the Mayor this year) *Richard de Poltimore*, *Herbert de Pine*, and *William le Speke*, *Knights*.

Priory of Cowick founded. According to *Sir William Dugdale*, about this time *Hugh*, *Lord Courtenay*, Baron of *Oakhampton*, founded the Priory of *Cowick*, near this city, as a Cell to the Abbey of *Tavistock;* but *Mr. Tanner*, in his *Notitia*, says (with more reason) it was built by one of the family of *De Brionis*, and given, as a cell, to the Abbey of Beck, in *Normandy*, and that *Lord Courtenay* only made it denizen. That it belonged to the Abbey of *Tavistock* is plain, and the church of *Oakhampton* was appropriated to it; as also the churches of *Kenn*, *Halstow*, and *Sticklepath*, with the Manor of *Christow*.

This *Hugh*, *Lord Courtenay*, died on the 28th of February, 1292, and was buried in the church of this Priory, as was also his Lady, who died October 1st, 1328.

1293. *Hugh*, *Lord Courtenay*, was created Earl of *Devon*, being the first of that family who enjoyed this title.

1295. The King sent his orders to the Magistrates of the principal cities and boroughs in the kingdom, to punish corporally all Bakers, Brewers, and Millers, convicted of bad practices, and all that were found to go armed in the night, and disturb the peace; also, to oblige Millers to return the flour by weight, according to the weight of the grain sent to be ground.

Bakers, Brewers, and Millers to be corporally punished.

1297. The King made a tour through the county of *Devon*, and visited this city, where he staid several days, lodging at the house of the Black Friars, and took this opportunity of settling a long disputed claim, between the Citizens and the Dean and Chapter, concerning the right of a free passage through a lane that led to the city walls, betwixt *St. Catherine's* Nunnery and the Black Friars, (now Egypt Lane) which the clergy endeavoured to stop up; but it was adjudged in favor of the citizens to have a free passage to the walls, which, by their charter, they were bound to repair and defend.

Dispute settled with the Chapter concerning a passage to the City Walls.

1299. It was found by verdict that, as the lands within this city of a Freeman descend to any person, so, by the custom, the freedom of the city descendeth therewith.

Isaac.

The Mayor and Citizens were appointed sole guardians of the Port of *Exeter*, to assist the King in his naval wars, with a power to search for and seize on all *gold and silver* intended to be sent out of the kingdom.

CHAP. II. This year the Mayor was chosen by the voices of twenty-four freemen, citizens, upon their oaths.

A. D. 1301. A great dispute arose between the Dean and Chapter, and the Prior and Friar Preachers, (commonly called the Black Friars) concerning the funeral of *Sir Henry Rawleigh, Knight*, whose corpse the Dean, &c. insisted on being presented at the cathedral prior to its interment in the said Friars' church, which they refused to do; the Dean, &c. therefore caused it by force to be brought there and presented; after which they sent it back to the Friars' convent, when they refused to receive it, and made fast their gate, by which means the corpse of the poor knight remained so long unburied that it stank, and became such a nuisance that they were obliged to bury it in the cathedral. This affair occasioned a law suit between the parties; but, on enquiry, the Friars were forced to submit, and consent that no person (who died within the city and suburbs) should be interred within their church and cemetery without being first presented at *St. Peter's* church.

Great dispute concerning a stinking corpse.

1302. The tenants of the Lord of *Kenton* and *Wyke*, Earl *Marshal of England*, refusing to pay murage (the town duties for repairing the walls of the city) for the wares and merchandize which they brought here to sell, a law suit commenced, which was at length decided in favor of the citizens.

1304. An ordinance was this year made that no person should buy any wares, merchandize, or victuals, bringing into this city to be sold, until the said goods be brought and lodged in the market, on pain of forfeiting the goods, which law was confirmed by Act of Parliament, in the fifth year of King Edward VI.

Provisions are to be sold in the market-place, on pain of forfeiture.

In this King's reign a native of this city, called, from the place of his birth, *Walter of Excester*, was much esteemed for his learning, especially in the Greek and Latin languages. He wrote, at the request of one *Baldwin*, (a citizen hereof) the History of *Guy*, Earl of *Warwick*. He was invited by the King to accept of some ecclesiastical preferment, which he modestly refused, choosing a solitary life, and accordingly retired to a small hermitage, in *Cornwall*, called the Cell of *St. Caroke*, where he spent the remainder of his days in great piety and devotion, and was buried in his cell, where, according to the wonder-working enthusiasts of those gloomy times, the sick were cured, and miracles wrought at his tomb.

Walter of Excester a learned man.

1306. King *Edward* died on the 7th July, this year, and was succeeded by his son, *Edward of Cærnarvon*, so called from the place of his birth.

MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of Edward I. CHAP. II.

1273.
Richard Geythen.
Robert Newton.
Walter Alport.
Thomas Farthing.
Michael Thorn.

1274.
Martin Dirling.
John Okeston.
Richard Tantifer.
Richard Allen.
Nicholas Atlane.

1275.
Alphred Duport.
Richard Tantifer.
Richard Allen.
Richard Newton.
Thomas Gatepath.

1276.
Alphred Duport.
John Feniton.
Richard Allen.
Richard Newton.
Thomas Gatepath.

1277.
John Feniton.
Richard Allen.
Henry Falcon.
John Rook.
John Zouch.

1278.
Alphred Duport.
Richard Tantifer.
Nicholas Atlane.
Hugh Falcon.
Thomas Gatepath.

1279.
John Feniton.
Richard Allen.
Richard Newton.
Thomas Gatepath.
John Rook.

1280.
Alphred Duport.
Richard Allen.
John Zouch.
John Rook.
Alex. Troycott.

1281.
Alphred Duport.
Richard Allen.
John Zouch.
John Rook.
Alex. Troycott.

1282.
Martin Dirling.
Nicholas Gervis.
Roger Fitzhenry.
Nicholas Atlane.
Richard Tantifer.

1283.
Alphred Duport.
David Taylor.
Nicholas Atlane.
Richard Gatepath.
Hugh Falcon.

1284.
Alphred Duport.
David Taylor.
Henry Ashe.
Stephen London.
Nicholas Atlane.

1285.
David Taylor.
Walter Langdon.
Stephen London.
Henry Ashe.
John Horne.

1286.
David Taylor.
Stephen Langdon.
Henry Golderott.
Peter Green.
Roger Russell.

1287.
John Zouch.
Richard Allen.
Richard Montin.
William Kerswell.
John Wells.

1288.
John Zouch.
Walter Langdon.
William Buffett.
William Gatepath.
Jordan Atlane.

1289.
Richard Alleyn.
John Rook.
Richard Montin.
Walter Langdon.
Robert Wyton.

1290.
John Zouch.
Henry Golderott.
John Webb.
William Gatepath.
Richard Montin.

1291.
John Zouch.
William Gatepath.
John Rook.
William Kerswell.
William Buffett.

1292.
William Gatepath.
William Kerswell.

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Henry Golderott.
William Wells.
Richard Montin.
Robert Newton.
William Kerswell.
Henry Trecott.
Walter Duport.
Thomas Farthing.
Michael Champernoun.

1293.
Richard Tantifer.
John Feniton.
John Cook.
Alex. Coryton.
Robert Newton.

1294.
John Zouch.
Walter Langdon.
John Rook.
William Buffett.
John Horn.

1295.
John Zouch.
Walter Langdon.
William Kerswell.
William Buffett.
Roger Wheaton.

1296.
Walter Tantifer.
Walter Langdon.
William Kerswell.
Robert Newton.
Roger Wheaton.

1297.
Walter Tantifer.
Walter Langdon.

1298.
Walter Tantifer.
William Buffett.
William Kerswell.
Roger Wheaton.
Nicholas Paige.

1299.
John Horn.
Nicholas Paige.
Roger Beynim.
Robert Newton.
Stephen Bennam.

1300.
William Gatepath.
John Paige.
Jordan Atlane.
Robert Newton.
John Perour.

1301.
William Tantifer.
Stephen Langdon.
William Kerswell.
John Gervis.
Roger Beynim.

1302.
Roger Beynim.
Roger Newton.

1303.
Roger Wheaton.
Walter Langdon.
William Kerswell.
William Buffett.
Henry Trecott.

1304.
Roger Wheaton.
Walter Langdon.
William Kerswell.
Robert Newton.
Walter Duport.

1305.
Roger Beynim.
Walter Langdon.
Robert Ashberton.
William Kerswell.
Henry Trecott.

1306.
Roger Beynim.
Walter Langdon.
Robert Newton.
William Kerswell.
Henry Trecott.

A. D. 1306. Edward II.

Edward, on taking possession of the throne, evinced his incapacity for governing a nation so turbulent as the *English* then were. In opposition to his father's dying commands he recalled his favourite, *Pierce Gaveston*, and placed the whole government in his hands. This *Gaveston* had been banished by the late King for debauching the morals of the young Prince, and his recall gave great offence to the *English* nobility, who could not patiently see a foreigner possess the ear of their monarch, and govern at his will; they remonstrated against it, but in vain; at length they had recourse to their arms, which

obliged the King to re-banish *Gaveston*, when the nobility taking advantage of the King's weakness, acted in the most arbitrary manner in their respective districts, opposing the King's officers, and openly defying the laws.

An unhappy dispute arose at this time between *Hugh Courtenay*, Earl of *Devon*, and the Mayor and Citizens of *Exeter*, which, from a trifling beginning, ended in the ruin of the little navigation of the river *Exe* which had been left them.

Dispute between the Earl of Devon and citizens, about a pot of fish, and its consequences.

The occasion of this dispute was briefly this: on a fast day the Earl sent his servant to *Exeter* market to buy fish, the Bishop's servant came also on the like errand; but there happening to be but three pots of fish in the market at that time, the Earl's servant insisted on having the whole, which was opposed by the servant of the Bishop; on this a great contention arose between them, and some of the citizens joining the contending parties a great riot ensued; to quell this the Mayor (*Roger Beynim*) was sent for, and he very prudently, as well as justly, ordered that one pot of the fish should be delivered to the Earl's servant, another to the Bishop's, and the other to be reserved for the use of the Citizens. The Earl being acquainted with this decision of the Mayor, and thinking himself aggrieved in not having the whole, came to his house, in the city, where he sent for the Mayor to attend him immediately. The Mayor, well knowing the Earl's pride and choleric disposition, assembled the Citizens at the Guildhall, and informed them of the Earl's displeasure, the cause thereof, and the personal danger he was in, desiring them to accompany him to the Earl's house, and protect him if required. To this they readily agreed, and proceeded there accordingly. The Mayor being introduced into the Earl's room the door was closed upon him, the Earl began to storm and used threatening language, the Mayor endeavoured to pacify him, but, finding it in vain, took off his *Tabard*,* or upper garment, (which was the Earl's livery) and gave it to him, on which the Earl grew more passionate, and high words ensuing the Citizens, who attended at the door,

* In the feudal times it was customary for persons who held lands of the great Barons to hold them by a tenure, which was to accompany them in their military excursions, and to attend his summons whenever called upon, (this was termed doing suit and service;) and at times of such attendance they wore over their vests a Tabard, or short coat, without sleeves, (similar to the heralds' coats at present) on which was painted or embroidered the arms, crests, and mottos, of the Lords from whom they held their lands: such was the case at this time. The Mayor, though a gentleman, and of great opulence, held lands of the Earl by this tenure, and accordingly attended him in his livery, as by custom.

CHAP. II.

doubting of their Mayor's safety, demanded him, which being denied, after several requests, they attempted to force an entrance, in order to rescue him from the Earl's violence: the Earl seeing this, and doubting of the consequences that might ensue to himself, released the Mayor, and desired him to pacify the people. The Citizens departed quietly to their houses, but notwithstanding this seeming calmness of the Earl, he ever after bore a great hatred to the Citizens, and endeavoured, to the full extent of his power, to encroach on their liberties; the Mayor and Common Council, from this circumstance, passed a bye law, that no franchised man of this city should wear any non-freeman's livery, cognizance, or badge, without the Mayor's licence, and it is inserted in the freeman's oath to this day.

No freeman is to wear a foreigner's livery, &c.

A. D. 1311.

The Earl now began to shew his antipathy and hatred towards the Citizens; he caused the channel which had been opened, for the passage of ships and boats, to be again filled up, and this was done at a great expence, by cutting down a great number of trees, which, being chained together, were laid in the channel, with great quantities of stones and gravel; these, in time, so united together as to make their removal impracticable. He also caused two more weirs to be made, one of which, opposite *St. James's Priory*, is still known by the name of *James's Weir;* the other, at a place called *Lampreyford*, (near where *Trew's Weir* now is;) and by these means the haven was entirely destroyed. Adding to his revenge, he also erected a Quay and a Crane at his mansion of *Topsham*, hoping thereby to remove the whole commerce of the Citizens, and to benefit himself and tenants. Nor did he stop here, for he not only thus injured the Citizens, but arbitrarily seized on their goods, and imprisoned their persons.

The haven entirely destroyed.

St. James's and another Weir erected.

Topsham Quay made.

Citizens complain to the King, but do not obtain any redress.

The Citizens complained to the King, who ordered an enquiry to be made, and consequently several writs were issued for that purpose, which were all returned in favor of the Citizens; but so great was the Earl's power at this time, and the weakness and imbecility of the King's government such, that they could not obtain any redress; the Earl opposing by force the King's officers who were sent down to remove the nuisances complained of; and soon after, the unhappy differences arising between the King and the Barons prevented the Citizens from receiving any relief whatever.

1312. Mayor and Bailiffs appointed Justices.

In the year 1312 the King, by his writs, appointed the Mayor and Bailiffs of this city to be justices of the peace within the same, which greatly lessened the Earl's power, and increased the liberties of the Citizens; for, before this time

the whole power of judging in controversial matters, concerning the King's peace, was in the Earls of *Devon*, and their delegated Justices.

A. D. 1313.

By the court rolls of this year the ancient custom and fees of admission to the privileges of the freedom of this city appear to be as follow :—

Isaac.

1. The Mayor, by his own free gift, may admit any one person to the freedom.

What persons may claim a right to the freedom.

2. The Court of Common Council may admit any other person to the said privilege.

3. The heir of any freeman may, by his patrimony, claim his freedom, whether the inheritance descend from his grandfather, father, uncle, brother, or any other person, being a freeman thereof, by and under whom he derives any estate or inheritance.

4. All such as have faithfully served an apprenticeship of seven years, under a freeman hereof, shall, upon the testimony of the said master that he hath truly served out his said time, be admitted to the freedom, on paying the usual fees of the court, viz :—

	s.	*d.*
To the Mayor	1	8
Recorder	1	8
Town-Clerk	0	8
Chamberlain	0	8
The Four Bailiffs, at 8*d.* each.	2	8
Sword-Bearer	0	4
The Four Sergeants, at 4*d.* each.	1	4
To the Poor of Magdalen Hospital	0	1
For Inrolling the Indenture	1	0
	10	1

Fees to be paid.

5. And lastly, all other persons may be admitted to the freedom, by way of redemption, and paying such reasonable fines as the Mayor and Common Council may set on them.

1316. The Earl still continues to vex the citizens. They again complain to the King.

The Earl still contipued his encroachments on the liberties of the Citizens, and they again prayed the King to interfere in their behalf. The King sent down his writ to the Sheriff of *Devon*, dated 20th March, 1316, this the Sheriff executed, and a verdict was found in favor of the complainants; yet such

* This list of fees (copied from Mr. Isaac) must certainly be erroneous in point of time, especially as to the Recorder, Chamberlain, and Sword-Bearer; the first Recorder not being appointed until the 28th of Edward III. the first Sword Bearer, the 13th of Henry VII. 1497; and there was no Chamberlain till the 2d of Mary, 1554.

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was the Earl's power that he prevented the writ from being returned. The King sent down a second writ, dated 12th June following, with strict orders to execute the same, and make a return immediately; this was accordingly done, and a decision was again given in favor of the Citizens; but so weak was the King's government at this time, and the Earl having joined the Barons in arms, the complainers could meet with no redress, and were overawed in such a manner that they were forced to relinquish their claims, and be tame spectators of the loss of their most valuable privileges.

Verdict again in their favor but no redress obtained.

Dreadful famine and pestilence.

This year (1316) the kingdom was visited by two dreadful scourges of the Almighty, famine and pestilence. It began in London, where the people complained that it was occasioned by great quantities of wheat being malted; whereupon an act was passed that no wheat should be made into malt, and for regulating the price of strong drink. Notwithstanding this act wheat continued to advance, even to £4 the quarter; this brought on such a famine throughout the whole kingdom that parents were accused of eating their own children, and malefactors ate one another in prison. This was followed by so great a mortality among the common people that those alive were scarce sufficient to bury the dead. This severe scarcity being attributed to an order made by the King, for regulating and settling certain prices on provisions, which prevented the country people from supplying the markets, the said order was accordingly revoked.

A. D. 1317. Bakers punished for adulterating bread &c.

The Bakers of this city taking advantage of the necessities of the people, by making their bread of an inferior quality, and smaller than the assize fixed by the Mayor, were fined and committed to prison till the said fines were paid; seventeen of these Bakers, who dwelt within the Bishop's liberty, claimed an exemption from the Mayor's jurisdiction, but they were forced to submit with the rest, and paid their fines accordingly.

1318. The King demands assistance from the citizens. 30 Soldiers sent and maintained.

The *Scots* having invaded *England*, the King sent orders to such cities and towns as were held by tenure to assist him in repelling the enemy: the city of *Exeter*, therefore, sent thirty soldiers, well armed and equipped, to join his forces, then assembling at *York;* and they were paid and maintained by the citizens during the whole campaign.*

* From the proportion of Soldiers sent by *Exeter* on this expedition it appears that it was considered as one of the first-rate cities: *London*, the Capital, being rated only at 200 men; and the city of *Canterbury* (together with the Clergy) at 40.

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An imposter now appeared, who gave some trouble to the Citizens; one *John Poudras*, or *Powderham*, a tanner's son, of this city. He pretended to be the lawful son of King *Edward* I. and that he was stolen from his cradle, by his nurse, and the present King put in his place. Notwithstanding the improbability of the story many idle people believed it, and resorted to him; but he being apprehended confessed the imposture, and was executed for the same.*

A native of Exeter pretends himself to be Edward II. Is executed for it.

A. D. 1321.

The King, being in great want of money, demanded a subsidy of the city of *Exeter*, which the Citizens cheerfully granted, to the amount of every sixth penny of all their goods and chattels.

The King demands a subsidy, & it is granted

1322.

Two writs of *Nisi Prius* were this year tried at the Castle of *Exeter*, before *John Stoner* and *Richard Stapledon*, *Knights*, the King's Justices of Assize, for this western circuit. In one of them, *Hugh Courtenay*, Earl of *Devon*, was Plaintiff, and the *Mayor* and *Commons*, of the city, Defendants; this was concerning the Manor of *Exe Island*, and the suburbs without the Westgate, which the Earl claimed to be his ancient demesne, as part of his Barony of *Oakhampton*, and as such, exempted from the jurisdiction of the said Mayor. The other writ was between the said *Hugh Courtenay* and the *Prior* of *St. Nicholas*, Plaintiffs, and the *Mayor* and *Commonalty*, Defendants, touching the customs, liberties, and privileges of *Lammas Fair*, in both of which trials verdict was given for the Citizens.†

Trials concerning Exe Island, and Lammas Fair.

Isaac.

1327.

Difference between the King and Queen.

Unhappy differences had long existed between the King and his Queen, *Isabella*, occasioned by his predilection for his favourites, the two *Spencers*, who had engrossed the whole power of government to themselves and their dependants. Their insolence the Queen could no longer bear: she fled privately to *France*, with the Prince, her son, and soon after returned with a considerable force, and was joined by most of the principal Barons. The King finding himself abandoned by

* *Mr. Isaac* very gravely tells us that *Poudras* was enticed to this crime by a familiar spirit, which he kept by him in the shape of a cat; but this spirit failing him, he was at the gallows executed for the same—(surely they ought to have hanged the cat with him)—a wonderful story for such a wondrous age.

† If verdicts were given in these causes in favor of the Citizens the contended property must have been detained from them by force, (an injury very prevalent in the feudal ages) for we find by history that the Manor of *Exe Island* continued in the *Courtenay* family until the 17th of *Henry* VIII. when it was forfeited by the attainder of *Henry Courtenay*, Marquis of *Exeter*. One moiety of *Lammas Fair* remained in the possession of that family until the same period: the other moiety continued in the possession of the *Prior* until the dissolution.

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The Bishop of Exeter murdered.

The King taken prisoner and most cruelly murdered.

his subjects endeavoured to escape to *Ireland*, and left *Walter Stapledon*, Bishop of *Exeter*, Custos of *London;* but the *Londoners*, taking arms in favor of the Queen, seized on the Bishop and barbarously murdered him, by cutting off his head; after which they buried his body in a sand hill, in the river *Thames*. The King, in his flight, being intercepted and taken prisoner, was forced to relinquish the throne in favor of his son, and a short time after, through the intrigues of the Queen's paramour, *(Mortimer*, Earl of *March)* he was most inhumanly murdered, in a very cruel manner; a red hot iron being thrust up his fundament, through a pipe of horn, that no marks or scars might be discerned; and thus, in the most excruciating torments, the unhappy King expired, in October, 1327.

MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of Edward II.

1307.
William Gatepath.
Jordan Atlane.
Jordan Perour.
Thomas Farthing.
Michael Turand.

1308.
Roger Beynim.
Michael Turand.
Walter Duport.
Robert Newton.
Thomas Farthing.

1309.
Roger Beynim.
Thomas Farthing.
Walter Duport.
William Newton.
William Kerswell.

1310.
Walter Tantifer.
Walter Langdon.
Peter Zouch.
Peter Lovecock.
Walter Lekenn.

1311.
Walter Langdon.
William Duport.
John Perour.
Adam Dyer.
Thomas Farthing.

1312.
William Gatepath.
Philip Lovecock.
William Kerswell.
William Farthing.
John Smalcomb.

1313.
Roger Beynim.
Thomas Farthing.
Philip Lovecock.
William Kerswell.
John Perour.

1314.
Roger Beynim.
Richard Soller.
Michael Skinner.
Richard Lekenn.
John Davy.

1315.
Philip Lovecock.
Thomas Farthing.
Richard Soller.
Ralph Dyer.
Matthew Capper.

1316.
Philip Lovecock.
Nicholas Turand.
John Tredeyners.
John Buffett.
John Davy.

1317.
Roger Beynim.
William Kerswell.
Thomas Farthing.
Michael Lekenn.
Martin Capper.

1318.
Philip Lovecock.
Martin Lekenn.
John Tredeyners.
Thomas Spycer.
Robert Woan.

1319.
Philip Lovecock.
Martin Lekenn.
Thomas Furbor.
Walter Suegothull.
Thomas Farthing.

1320.
Philip Lovecock.
Martin Lekenn.
Thomas Furbor.
Walter Suegothull.
Thomas Farthing.

1321.
William Wotton.
John Perour.
John Taylor.
Thomas Spycer.
John Davy.

1322.
Robert Wotton.
Richard Sotter.
William Sweinthill.
William Brewer.
Thomas Furbor.

1323.
Robert Wotton.
John Lekenn.
Walter Houghton.
John Davy.
Roger Taylor.

1324.
Philip Lovecock.
Martin Lekenn.
Henry Lovecock.
Thomas Taylor.
John Erchdeacon.

1325.
Philip Lovecock.
Nicholas Wallys.
Richard Soller.
Martin Lekenn.
Thomas Oxton.

1326.
Philip Lovecock.
John Birch.
Thomas Furbor.
Martin Lekenn.
Thomas Spycer.

Edward was only 14 years of age when he ascended the throne, and was entirely governed by his mother and her favourite, *Mortimer;* yet, even at this early age, he shewed proofs of great magnanimity, which was the glory of his reign. He endeavoured to suppress the different factions which had so long divided the kingdom, and happily succeeded: in order to lessen the power of the Barons, he increased the privileges of the cities and borough towns; and, in the year 1329, he granted a new charter to the Citizens of *Exeter*, by which he gave them cognizance of pleas, that no freeman should implead any other freeman out of the liberties and courts thereof, on pain of disfranchisement: he also extended their privileges and jurisdiction, by which grants the power of the Earls of *Devon*, over the Citizens was greatly diminished.

Edw. III.

A. D. 1327.

1329.

A new charter granted.

No freeman to implead another freeman out of the city.

The Guildhall, being ruinous, was re-built. The Porter of the Westgate was punished and removed from his office, he having left the said gate open, during the night, without the Mayor's licence.

1330. The Guildhall rebuilt, and the Porter of Westgate removed.

Martin Lekenn died in his mayoralty, and *Thomas Lichfield* was elected to supply his place for the remainder of the year. This year the King created his eldest son, *Edward*, Duke of *Cornwall*, and sent his orders to the Mayor of this city for the proclaiming thereof (these orders were directed to the Mayor of his honourable city of *Excester.)* He also ordered that this city should remain a parcel of the said Dutchy, as heretofore it was of the Earldom, and fixed the fee-farm rent at £20 per annum.

1334.

1336. Prince of Wales made Duke of Cornwall

The King being abroad, in *France*, some evil-minded person

1344.

CHAP. II. in order to blacken the character of the Citizens, who stood high in their Monarch's favor, falsely informed him that a great riot had been committed by them, and that great tumults still continued among them: upon which he sent a commission of Oyer and Terminer, dated 20th August, 1344, directed to the Mayor and Justices, strictly requiring them to appease the said tumults, and to cause all breakers of the peace of the said city to be severely punished.

The King falsely informed of a riot in Exeter.

Sends his commission of enquiry.

A. D. 1347. Party differences and contentions arose among the Citizens concerning the election of a Mayor and other officers for the ensuing year, which had nearly occasioned great troubles, but were happily prevented by the interference of some discreet Citizens, who prevailed on the contending parties to agree to the following regulation: it was therefore ordered by the Mayor and Common Council that, for the future, no person should be elected into the office of Mayor but a wise, sober, grave, and honest man, who had served the office of Bailiff one whole year; and that he should be able to expend, yearly, of his own freehold, £5 at the least; and that he be chosen by 24 of the most discreet Citizens, selected for that purpose, who, upon their several and respective oaths, should determine the election.

Great contest about the election of a Mayor, &c.

1348. *Nicholas Halberton* died in his mayoralty, and *Robert Noble* was chosen for the remainder of the year.

Quay, &c. at Exmouth belong to the Citizens of Exeter. In Easter Term, this year, a long pending suit of law was determined in the Court of King's Bench, *Westminster*, in which a verdict was found that the *Quay*, *Passage*, and *Lastage*, at *Prattished*, near *Exmouth*, and all the profits arising from thence, were, and are a parcel of the fee-farm of this city, as part of the Manor of *Lydford*, a member of the Dutchy of *Cornwall*, holden by the said Citizens, at the yearly rent of £20.

1353. The pasture of *Crolldítch*, or *Southernhay*, was first set at an annual rent of five shillings.

A dreadful pestilence. A dreadful pestilence, at first brought from *Asia*, spread over all the southern parts of *Europe*, and at length reached *England*, where it made most dreadful ravages: in the year 1448 there died in *London*, from the 1st of January to the 1st of July following, 57,374 persons; and reaching this city it nearly depopulated it, insomuch that the cemeteries could not contain the dead bodies, and, therefore, they were greatly enlarged: this dreadful calamity continued until the year 1357, when it happily ceased.

Exeter nearly depopulated by it.

1354. Recorder first appointed. A Recorder being thought necessary, to assist the Mayor in his judicial office, *John Weekes*, *Esq.* was the first appointed,

with a salary of £3 per annum; this officer was afterwards chosen yearly, like the Mayor and other officers.

Low price of provisions.

The great mortality above-mentioned had so lessened the consumption of provisions that the prices were reduced to the following low rates: a fine Ox was sold at 4*s.*, the best Cow at 1*s.*, and the best Hog at 5*d.*

A. D. 1357.

King *Edward's* successful war against the *French*, in which he took the important town of *Calais*, and gained the memorable victory of *Cressy*, so exasperated them that they fitted out a powerful fleet, with which they insulted the *English* coast, and burned several small towns in *Sussex*. The King (then in *France*) being informed of these depredations, sent his orders to the different sea ports of the kingdom, to fit out such a number of ships as, according to their tenure, they were bound to assist him with. Accordingly, by his letters patent, under his great seal, dated 25th March, 1357, the Citizens of *Exeter* were required to furnish him with three ships immediately; each to be manned with sixty mariners and twenty archers; this the Citizens cheerfully complied with; they delivered the ships to *Gervais de Aldlamy*, Vice-Admiral of *Devon*, who conducted them to join the *English Fleet*, then lying at *Sandwich*, under the command of *John, Lord Montgomery*, High Admiral of *England*, by whom the *French Fleet* were defeated; and the *English* (in retaliation for the injury they had received) plundered and burnt on the coast of *France* near 100 leagues in extent.

Exeter assists the King with 3 ships, 60 mariners & 20 archers in each.

Battle of Poictiers.

Edward, Prince of *Wales*, (surnamed the *Black Prince*) having gained the ever memorable victory of *Poictiers*, in which 12,000 *English* defeated an army of more than 60,000 of the choicest troops of the *French*, taking *John*, King of *France*, his youngest son, and a great number of noblemen prisoners, on his return landed at *Plymouth*, and coming from thence to this city was received with the greatest testimonies of joy: the Prince and his royal prisoners were nobly entertained at the expence of the *Mayor* and *Citizens* during their continuance, which was three days.

The Black Prince, with the French King, &c. his prisoners, come to Exeter.

1362.

The Bakers of this city thinking themselves aggrieved because they could not make and sell their bread according to their own quality and assize, entered into an agreement not to bake any, by which the Citizens were for two days together destitute of bread; for this offence the Bakers were all indicted, found guilty, and sentenced to be fined each £1 6*s.* 8*d.*

Bakers refuse to bake, are fined.

1367.

This year a cause was appointed to be tried, at the Castle of *Exeter*, before *John Mowbray* and *Edmund Chealy*, his Majesty's Justices of Assize, between the *Dean* and *Chapter* of

CHAP. II.

this Cathedral, Plaintiffs, and *John Gyst*, (late Mayor) the Commonalty, and Bailiffs of this city, Defendants: but the Dean and Chapter, doubting the issue of their cause, artfully endeavoured to hinder the proceedings; and, in order thereto, exhibited a bill of complaint to the King, informing him that the Mayor had, by proclamation, commanded the Citizens to attend him, in arms, at the next assizes, at the castle, whereby the Justices might be prevented from proceeding in the trial, and by that means the jury hindered from being sworn.

Dean and Chapter give false information to the King.

The King, angered at this, sent his commission to *John Montague*, and four others, to examine into the truth of this information; but, before they sat, the said Justices and *Sir Guy de Brion*, being returned to court, were examined concerning the said riot, when they testified that the said charge was false and groundless, and that no such riot had happened, upon which the King sent his inhibition to the Commissioners, forbidding them to proceed therein. This deed bears date the 12th of February, 1367.

A. D. 1371. *Edward*, the *Black Prince*, being in a consumptive state, returned from *France* and landed at *Plymouth*. In his journey to *London* he came to this city, with the Princess, his wife, and was joyfully received; but, being in a very weak condition, he staid several days to recover his strength. During the time of his stay the Prince and his suite were elegantly entertained at the expence of the Mayor, at whose house he was lodged till his departure from *Exeter*.

Edward, the Black Prince, again visits this city.

1373. *Roger Plenty* dying in his Mayoralty, *Roger Wilsford* was elected to serve the remainder of the year.

A great mortality. The summer of this year being excessively hot, it occasioned a mortality, which carried off a great number of the inhabitants of this city.

1376. *Edward*, the *Black Prince*, died in the flower of his age, deeply regretted by the whole of the *English* nation, but especially by the inhabitants of this city, to whom he had been a constant friend and great benefactor. He possessed all the social virtues in an eminent degree; he was valiant, brave, and affable, generous and liberal; his greatest pleasure was to reward merit, whenever he found it; and he possessed all the qualites that constitute the true hero and friend.

Edward the Black Prince dies.

1377. King *Edward* died at *Richmond*, in *Surrey*, in the 65th year of his age, and 51st of his reign, and was succeeded by his grandson, *Richard*, son of *Edward*, the *Black Prince*.

1327.
Richard Soller.
Thomas Gervais.
William Kirton.
Richard Pleigh.
William Austin.

1328.
Philip Lovecock.
Thomas Furbor.
Martin Lekenn.
Henry Haughton.
Peter Baynim.

1329.
Philip Lovecock.
Thomas Gervais.
Henry Lovecock.
John Lekenn.
Richard Pleigh.

1330.
Martin Lekenn.
John Trediners.
Henry Haughton.
Henry Gatepath.
Walter Gervais.

1331.
Philip Lovecock.
Henry Haughton.
John Lekenn.
Richard Pleigh.
Robert Kirton.

1332.
Martin Lekenn.
Thomas Furbor.
Lawrence Colwell.
Reynold Noldekin.
John Sutton.

1333.
Thomas Gervais.
Reynold Noldekin.
William Brewer.
John Lekenn.
John Sutton.

1334.
Martin Lekenn.
Thomas Litchfield.
John Sutton.
Henry Lovecock.
Alexander Wallis.
Robert Turner.

1335.
Henry Haughton.
Thomas Pleigh.
Thomas Furbor.
William Lydeland.
Alexander Wallis.

1336.
Henry Haughton.
Thomas Furbor.
John Coles.
William Shillingford.
John Colebrook.

1337.
Thomas Gervais.
Robert Noble.
Richard Pleigh.
John Newton.
John Davy.

1338.
Henry Haughton.
Nicholas Goldscott.
Richard Pleigh.
Thomas Furbor.
John Davy.

1339.
Thomas Litchfield.
Robert Bridport.
John Cook.
John Newton.
Roger Wythorn.

1340.
Henry Haughton.
Robert Bridport.
Thomas Furbor.
Richard Pleigh.
Richard Halberton.

1341.
Henry Haughton.
Reynold Wythern.
Thomas Furbor.
Richard Pleigh.
John Sutton.

1342.
Robert Furbor.
Robert Bradworthy.
Robert Halberton.
Nicholas Goldscott.
Walter White.

1343.
Thomas Furbor.
William Hastment.
Roger Treseler.
Richard Pleigh.
Robert Noble.

1344.
Henry Haughton.
John Newton.
John Sutton.
Richard Pleigh.
Robert Noble.

1345.
Henry Haughton.
Nicholas Halberton.
Roger Treseler.
William Hascom.
John Sutton.

1346.
Thomas Furbor.

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John Gist.
Robert Noble.
John Pleigh.
Walter White.

1347.
Henry Haughton.
Thomas Spicer.
John Bonleigh.
John Sutton.
John Newton.

1348.
Nich. Halberton, Ob.
Robert Noble.
John White.
Nicholas Goldscott.
Robert Noble, Jun.
John Byrch.

1349.
Robert Bridport.
John Spicer.
Henry Furbor.
John Ottery.
John Sleigh.

1350.
Robert Bridport.
Robert Brown.
Thomas Spicer.
John Gist.
Richard Oliver.

1351.
Robert Bridport.
John Swanton.
Roger Atwill.
Richard Somaster.
John Spicer.

1352.
Robert Bridport.
Richard Oliver.
Thomas Spicer.
Robert Brown.
John Gist.

1353.
John Spicer.
Roger Atwill.
Simon Atpitt.
John Ottrey.
John Somaster.

1354.
John Spicer.
John Gist.
Roger Atwill.
Henry Furbor.
William Bennett.

1355.
Robert Bridport.
John Hull.
Roger Atwill.
John Ottrey.
Robert Brown.

1356.
John Gist.
William Bennett.
William Gervais.
Henry Furbor.
Adam Brasinter.

1357.
John Spicer.
Nich. Briddestow.
John Hull.
Roger Atwill.
John Dirkin.

1358.
Robert Noble.
Robert Brown.
John Alleigh.
William Gervais.
William Stockleigh.

1359.
John Spicer.
John Dirkin.
Roger Atwill.
Richard Oliver.
Walter Atwood.

1360.
John Spicer.
Warren Bailiff.
Walter Crisp.
Richard Goldsmith.
Robert Brown.

1361.
John Gist.
William Rokes.
Roger Atwill.
Walter Atwood.
William Stokely.

1362.
John Gist.
Roger Plenty.
Nicholas Briddestow.
William Hardy.
Robert Stoke.

1363.
John Gist.
Roger Atwill.
William Gervais.
William Seamor.
Walter Atwood.

1364.
John Gist.
Walter Atwood.
John Tirling.
Roger Fitz Hugh.
Henry Welland.

1365.
Nicholas Taverner.
William Hardy.
Robert Wilsford.
Adam Scutt.
John Nymett.

1366.
Nich. Briddestow.
Martin Battishill.
William Gervais.

Roger Atwill.
Thomas Wilpy.
John Nymett.
John Webb.
William Gervais.
Thomas Webber.
John White.

1367.
Nich. Briddestow.
John Nymett.
Martin Battishill.
William Gervais.
Henry Furbor.

1368.
Warren Bailiff.
Robert Wilsford.
Walter Whithorn.
Walter Atwood.
Thomas Webb.

1369.
Roger Plenty.
Raymond Gosse.
Adam Scutt.
Roger Atwood.
Walter Crisp.

1370.
Martin Battishill.
Walter Whithorn.
John Grey.

1371.
Roger Plenty.
John Grey.
Thomas Webb.
John Bell.
John Gommerell.

1372.
John Gist.
Walter Atwood.
Roger Atwill.
Robert Stoke.
Walter Fowk.

1373.
Roger Plenty, Ob.
Robert Wilsford.
Adam Scutt.
Richard Bosom.
Thomas Webber.
John Russel.

1374.
Robert Wilsford.
Adam Gould.

1375.
Robert Wilsford.
John Talbott.
William Gervais.
Robert Stoke.
Walter Fowk.

1376.
John Grey.
John Nymett.
Adam Gould.
Walter Whitrow.
Richard Stayce.

1377.
Robert Wilsford.
Adam Scutt.
William Gervais.
John Russel.
Raymond Gosse.

Richard II. was only eleven years of age when he began his reign, and during his minority the government was in the hands of his uncles, the Dukes of *Lancaster*, *York*, and *Gloucester:* but when he came of age, and took the power into his own hands, he (by his weak attachments to his favourites, on whom he lavished most of the wealth and power of the kingdom) so exasperated the Barons, that even his uncles could not bear the pride and tyranny of these upstarts; this made his reign a scene of unhappiness, and at length brought him to a miserable end. Richard II. A. D. 1377.

The *French* and *Spaniards*, taking advantage of the King's minority, fitted out a large fleet and ravaged the southern coasts of the kingdom, particularly that of *Devon:* they burnt the towns of *Dartmouth* and *Plymouth*, after which they attempted to proceed up the river *Exe;* the Citizens of *Exeter* made all preparation in their power to receive them, by arming themselves, repairing their walls, and scouring their ditches; but *Sir Philip Courtenay* and his brother, *Sir Peter*, (sons 1378. The French burn Dartmouth and Plymouth, and attempt Exeter. Are opposed.

CHAP. II.

of the Earl of *Devon*) having collected the inhabitants of *Somerset* and *Devon*, the *French* prudently re-embarked; however, the Knights, assisted by the Citizens of *Exeter*, and the gentlemen of the said counties, fitted out such ships as they could collect together, and inconsiderately attacked the enemies fleet; but, overpowered by numbers, they, with most of their gentlemen followers, were taken prisoners, and carried into *France*.

Sir Philip Courtenay, &c. taken prisoners.

A great plague.

The plague again visited this city, and carried off a great number of the inhabitants.

A. D. 1379.

This year an Act of Parliament was passed (chiefly through the interest of the Citizens of *London*,) that no victualler should exercise any Judicial office in any *City*, *Town*, *Borough*, or *Sea-port*, in the kingdom, unless in such towns where no other sufficient person should be found qualified for such an office; in which case every such person was to abstain from the exercise of such trade during the time of his office, upon pain of forfeiture of all such victuals as he should sell during that time; by this all *Fishmongers*, *Butchers*, and *Grocers*, were deemed victuallers, and were rendered incapable of serving the office of Mayor, &c.

1380. No Fishmonger, Butcher, or Grocer, to serve the office of Mayor, &c.

Wat Tyler's rebellion. Citizens of Exeter firm in the King's interest. Charters, &c. renewed.

During the commotion which broke out in several parts of the kingdom, particularly in *Kent* and *Essex*, where they were headed by *Wat Tyler* and *Jack Straw*, the Citizens of *Exeter* continued firm in the cause of their King; and in return for their loyalty he confirmed their charters, and greatly enlarged their liberties and privileges; and when the King fitted out a powerful fleet, in order to prevent the *French* from insulting the *English* coasts, the city sent to his assistance a large ship, which they armed, manned, and victualled, wholly at their own expence.

1384. Exe bridge damaged.

A great flood happened, which carried away part of Exe Bridge, and several people were drowned.

1387.

The Cordwainers and Curriers were first incorporated.

1398.

The plague again made great ravages in this city, and swept off a great number of its inhabitants.

First Duke of Exeter.

John Holland, Earl of *Huntingdon*, was, by patent, created Duke of *Exeter*.

1399.

King Richard deposed and murdered.

The King's blind attachment to his favourites, and their oppression of his subjects, became so odious that the nobility, gentry, and people at large, invited *Henry*, Duke of *Hereford*,* (then an exile in *France*) to come over and deliver them from the slavery they were sunk into; this *Henry* gladly accepted, and, landing at *Ravenspur*, in *Yorkshire*, soon found himself at the head of 60,000 men. *Richard*, finding himself deserted

* Son of *John Gaunt*, late Duke of *Lancaster*, and grandson to *Edward* III.

by his subjects, attempted to escape to *Ireland*, but was taken and committed prisoner to *Pomfret Castle*, and soon after deposed by Act of Parliament: *Henry* was recognized as King, and in a little time the unfortunate *Richard* was inhumanly murdered, in his confinement.

MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of Richard II.

1378.
Robert Wilsford.
Raymond Gosse.
William Down.
Henry Soam.
Peter Hadleigh.

1379.
Robert Wilsford.
John Read.
William Gervais.
John Russel.
Richard Browne.

1380.
John Grey.
John Russel.
William Gervais.
Henry Westcott.
Henry Soam.

1381.
John Nymett.
Richard Bosom.
William Gervais.
Henry Westcott.
William Coscom.

1382.
Robert Wilsford.
William Gervais.
Simon Grendon.
Baldwin Whitleigh.
Thomas Smithayes.

1383.
John Talbot.
John Panton.
Henry Allen.
Peter Heighly.
John Webb.

1384.
Robert Wilsford.
William Coscom.
John Pearse.
William Railsford.
Robert Stoke.

1385.
Adam Scutt.
Thomas Smithayes.
Peter Hadleigh.
Thomas Wondry.
William Oke.

1386.
Robert Wilsford.
Simon Grendon.
Henry Hull.
John Webb.
John Shapleigh.

1387.
Richard Bosom.
William Oke.
John Grills.
Richard Pewterer.
Baldwin Whitleigh.

1388.
Robert Wilsford.
Henry Allen.
John Russel.
William Gervais.
John Ponton.

1389.
Richard Bosom.
Adam Gould.
Simon Grendon.
Thomas Smithayes.
William May.

1390.
Robert Wilsford.
John Shapleigh.
John Russel.
Raymond Gosse.
Robert Eascom.

1391.
Richard Bosom.
William Custom.
William Gervais.
Simon Grendon.
William Oke.

1392.
Robert Wilsford.
John Panton.
John Russel.
Raymond Gosse.
Henry Hull.

1393.
Richard Bosom.
William Oke.
William Gervais.
Simon Grendon.
William Coscom.

1394.
Robert Wilsford.
Philip Shapleigh.

CHAP. II.

Henry Hull.	William Wilsford.	Robert Easton.
John Ponton.	William Oke.	Thomas Wandry.
Thomas Easton.	Robert Wyndett.	Ralph Swan.

1395.	1397.	1399.
Simon Grendon.	*Adam Scutt.*	*John Grey.*
Thomas Wandry.	William Wilsford.	John Batten.
Richard Pewterer.	John Batten.	John Russel.
Roger Doly.	John Russel.	John Wilsford.
William Coscom.	Richard Larkstoke.	John Shapleigh.

1396.	1398.
John Talbot.	*Simon Grendon.*
Henry Hull.	Richard Pewterer.

A. D. 1399. Henry IV. *Henry*, the first King of the house of *Lancaster*, began his reign the 30th September, 1399, and as he ascended the throne by the most indirect means, his crown proved a troublesome acquisition. The murder of *Richard* will be an eternal blot on his memory. He was naturally of a jealous temper, and in order to maintain his power he put many of the principal nobility to death, who were adjudged to be the friends of the late monarch, among which was the late created Duke of *Exeter*, *John Holland*,* whom he caused to be beheaded.

Duke of Exeter beheaded.

1408. City Waits first instituted. The band of music (now termed the city waits) was first instituted, to attend the Mayor on all solemn occasions.

1409. *Thomas*, Earl of *Dorset*, and brother to the King, was created Duke of *Exeter*.

1412. The Mayor, *William Wilsford*, dying in his mayoralty, *Henry Hull* was elected for the residue of the year.

Citizens confirmed in their rights to town duties. By a verdict obtained this year, in the Court of King's Bench, it was confirmed that the Citizens of *Exeter* had a right to the passage and ferry at *Exmouth*, and that the *Lastage*, *Stallage*, and *Petty Customs* (commonly called town duties) of all wares and merchandizes, landed and discharged within the limits of the port of *Exeter*, were the property of the said Citizens, as being a parcel of the said city, held of the Dutchy of *Cornwall*, by the fee-farm rent of £20 a year, payable at the said Dutchy Court.

1413. King *Henry* died on the 20th March, 1413, and was succeeded by his eldest son, *Henry*, Prince of *Wales*.

* This Duke greatly re-edified the Castle of *Exeter*, and lodgings therein, which, in his time, was esteemed as sumptuous edifices; he also erected a stately mansion at *Dartington*, near *Totnes*, now the seat of *A. Champernown, Esq.*

MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of Henry IV. CHAP. II.

1400.
William Wilsford.
Robert Easton.
Richard Kenneridge.
Thomas Wandry.
Peter Sturt.

1401.
William Oke.
John Lake.
John Wilsford.
Roger Doly.
John Shapleigh.

1402.
William Wilsford.
Thomas Easton.
Nicholas Boughwood.
John Shepherd.
Richard Larkstoke.

1403.
Henry Hull.
John Shapleigh.
Robert Cobley.
Peter Sturt.
Roger Doly.

1404.
William Wilsford.
John Wilsford.
Robert Okesty.
Thomas Wandry.
John Shapleigh.

1405.
Simon Grendon.
Peter Sturt.
Richard Pewterer.
Robert Cobley.
John Coscom.

1406.
William Wilsford.
John Batten.
Walter Cobley.
John Exbridge.
Thomas Wandry.

1407.
Adam Scutt.
Nicholas Boughwood.
John Lake.
Reynold Gould.
John Shapleigh.

1408.
William Wilsford.
Richard Larkstoke.
Henry Mayhew.
John Pallow.
Thomas Easton.

1409.
Richard Bosom.
John Shapleigh.
Robert Cobley.
Stephen Frank.
Walter Cobley.

1410.
Adam Scutt.
Roger Gould.
Ralph Swan.
John Cooper.
Robert Cobley.

1411.
William Wilsford.
John Shepherd.
John Batten.
John Lake.
Peter Sturt.

1412.
Wm. Wilsford, Ob.
Henry Hull.
John Pallow.
John Wilsford.
Stephen Frank.
Richard Cross.

Henry V. gave but gloomy hopes to his subjects of his future government, having, during his father's life, been guilty of many foibles, and assembled with the most abandoned and dissolute profligates; however, no sooner had he taken possession of the throne than he banished (contrary to all expectations) his former companions, and, like the sun emerging from a cloud, broke out in full splendor, and proved himself to be an experienced soldier, a good politician, a sincere friend to justice, and a true lover of his subjects. A. D. 1413. Henry V.

In the year 1415 *Henry*, in order to find employment for his 1415

CHAP. II. restless Barons, and to gratify the warlike inclinations of his subjects, demanded of the *French* monarch a restitution of those provinces, in *France*, which had been wrested from his predecessors; and on receiving a refusal, with an arrogant answer to his just demands, he declared war, and landed in *France* with a powerful army; after taking several towns he gained the ever memorable victory of *Agincourt*, notwithstanding the *French* army exceeded the *English* in number by upwards of four to one. In this battle the *French* lost a great number of noblemen, and more than 10,000 common men, and 1,500 taken prisoners; when the loss, on the side of the *English*, amounted only to two noblemen, four knights, one esquire, and twenty-eight privates.

War declared against France.

Battle of Agincourt.

A. D. 1416. While the King was pursuing his conquests in *France*, he, in order to protect the *English* coasts from any depredations of the enemy, sent his writs to the different sea-ports of his kingdom, to fit out a powerful fleet, which was cheerfully complied with, and the *Devonshire* squadron, under the command of *Edward*, Lord *Courtenay*, and the Lord *Carew*, joined the King's fleet, which was commanded by *John*, Earl of *Bedford*. The *French* fleet attempting to relieve *Harfleur*, then besieged by the *English*, were totally defeated, with a great loss of men, and most of their ships taken and destroyed: in this battle the *Devonshire* squadron led the van, and contributed greatly to the victory.

French fleet defeated.

1421. This year an ancient custom was confirmed, that if there be not a sufficient number of citizens or inhabitants, that are freeholders, to be returned for a jury on a trial, that then a return may be made of other citizens who have moveable goods sufficient.

Non-freeholders to be returned on juries.

1422. *Henry*, after having humbled the *French* nation, was seized by a bloody flux, which terminated in his death, at *Vincennes*, in *France*, Aug. 31st, 1422, concluding a glorious and triumphant reign of nine years and five months, and was succeeded by his only son, *Henry*, a child of nine months old.

MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of Henry V.

1413.
Peter Sturt.
William Jew.
John Cook.
Ralph Swan.
John Batten.

1414.
Thomas Easton.
John Lake.
John Wilsford.
Thomas Sharp.
John Clark.

1415.
Peter Scutt.
Roger Gould.
Robert Cobley.
Robert Voisey.
William Shapleigh.

1416.
John Batten.
Thomas Shapp.
William Hull.
Thomas Hickley.
Walter Bogbrook.

1417.	1419.	1421.
John Cook.	*Thomas Easton.*	*John Cook.*
John Clark.	John Shillingford.	Robert Voisey.
William Shapleigh.	John Stipping.	John Salter.
Nicholas Trelawney.	Ralph Dolbear.	John Atyate.
Stephen Butterford.	William Overton.	Nicholas Trelawney.

1418.	1420.	1422.
John Batten.	*John Batten.*	*Thomas Easton.*
Robert Hickley.	John Shillingford.	John Cutler.
John Hull.	John Cutler.	William May.
Robert Voisey.	John Coscom.	William Cook.
Walter Crabb.	William Shapleigh.	John Stokeleigh.

Henry, during his minority, was placed under the care of *Thomas*, Duke of *Exeter*, and the Bishop of *Winchester*, for his education, while the administration of government was put into the hands of the Protector, *John*, Duke of *Bedford*, by whose interest the infant monarch was crowned King of *France*, in *Paris*, and for some years the kingdom enjoyed the blessings of peace. A. D. 1422. Henry VI.

The King demanded a subsidy of *Tonnage* and *Poundage* of the inhabitants of this city, towards defraying the expences of his wars in *France*, which was cheerfully granted. 1424. Subsidy granted to the King.

This year a custom commenced of giving to the Mayor and Aldermen, at the Feasts of *Christmas* and *Easter*, a certain quantity of bread and wine, commonly called *Canon* bread and wine.

The Master, Wardens, and Company of Bakers, within this city, (not liking the assize of bread as set by the Mayor) made an order among themselves that they would discontinue the custom of giving what was termed advantage bread, or one penny on a dozen; which the Citizens murmuring at, the Bakers, in order to force a compliance, agreed not to bake any bread at all, unless the Mayor would set the assize according to their wills; but he being a discreet and sensible magistrate, and understanding the laws, he (after duly investigating the matter) not only refused a compliance, but adjudged them to pay a heavy fine each, and committed the Master, Wardens, and principal offenders to prison, where they were confined until they publicly acknowledged their crimes, and paid the several fines imposed on them. 1428. Bakers refuse to bake any bread. Are fined and committed to prison.

The dispute which had long existed between the *Mayor* and *Commonalty*, and the *Dean* and *Chapter* of *St. Peter*, concerning the extent of the Fee and Manor of *St. Sidwell*, was terminated by an Act of Parliament, whereby the bounds 1436.

CHAP. II. and limits of the said parish were ascertained: this act bears date the 4th May, 1436.

A. D. 1437. Butchers refuse to keep the shambles. Are fined and sent to prison.

This year the Butchers confederated among themselves that they would not keep any public standings in the shambles, but only sell their wares at their own dwelling-houses; two of them, *John Smith* and *John Taylor*, put the said agreement into execution; but on complaint being made to the Mayor, he ordered them to be fined and committed to prison, where they remained till they revoked their agreement, and paid the said fine.

1438. Famine and Plague.

A sharp famine made dreadful havoc in *England* and *France*, which was followed by a great plague, that carried off a great number of the inhabitants of both kingdoms.

1442. Non-Freemen to pay Quarterly 7½*d.*

An Act of Common Council was made that every inhabitant of this city (not being free thereof) who should sell *Bread* or *Ale* within this city, or liberties thereof, should pay for such licence 7½*d.* every quarter of a year, for the use of the city.

1444.

John Shillingford, being elected Mayor, refused to be sworn, and to execute the office; complaint of which was made to the King, on which he sent a writ, under his privy seal, commanding the said *John Shillingford* to accept of the office on the penalty of £1,000, in consequence of this he came to the Guildhall, on the Monday after the Feast of *St. Valentine*, and there took the customary oaths; and, notwithstanding he entered into the office so reluctantly, he discharged it with great honour to himself, and benefit to his fellow Citizens.

1445. High School founded.

A place for liberal education being much wanted in this city, the Dean and Chapter converted an ancient chapel, dedicated to the *Holy Trinity*,* (situated in what is now termed *Musgrave's Alley*, then *Trinity Lane*) into a school, which they founded by the name of the High School, for the better education of youth in useful learning, and appointed a Master, for whose accommodation they erected a convenient house adjoining the school for his residence, and settled a salary on him of £20 per annum.

1447.

A long and troublesome suit at law, in which *Bishop Lacy* and the *Dean* and *Chapter* of *St. Peter* were Plaintiffs, and the *Mayor* and *Commonalty* of this city, Defendants, concerning the liberties and bounds of the Mayor and his Officers' jurisdiction, was referred to the decision of *Thomas Courtenay*,

* This Chapel, after having been desecrated and used for several purposes, has of late years been restored again to the purpose of Divine worship, and is now used as such by a large congregation, the followers of the late Rev. John Wesley.

Earl of *Devon*, and *Sir William Bonville, Knight*, who, after a full enquiry into the claims of both parties, awarded that the Mayor and his Officers, according to their ancient charters, confirmed to them by his Majesty's predecessors, had a right to carry their Maces within the said church, cemetery, and fee, without any molestation or disturbance from the Bishop, Dean, or Chapter, and their successors, or any of their officers, for ever.

Mayor's Officers have a right to carry their Maces within the Cathedral, and its liberty.

Exe Bridge now becoming ruinous, (the lower part, with the piers only, being built of stone, whilst the upper part being of framed timber, gravelled over) it was dangerous to the passengers, therefore, the Mayor, *John Shillingford*, proposed the re-building of it, and made application to *Cardinal Kemp*, Archbishop of *York*, (with whom he had an intimate acquaintance) for his assistance therein; but the sudden death of the Mayor prevented, for that time, any further proceedings in this salutary work.

Exe Bridge decayed.

A. D. 1448.

The Bishop of *Winchester*, *Thomas*, Earl of *Devon*, and *John*, *Lord Stourton*, were commissioned by the King to demand a loan of three ships, properly furnished and victualled, to convey soldiers into *Bretagne*, in *France;* this supply was speedily and cheerfully granted by the city of *Exeter*—a convincing proof of the opulence of the inhabitants, and the share they had in the commerce of these times, when the city of *London* was subsidized, on this occasion, at six ships only.

The King demands a loan of 3 ships which is complied with.

1450.

The names of the assistant officers to the Mayor (which hitherto had been termed *Seneschalli*, or *Stewards)* were altered to *Baillivi*, or *Bailiffs*.

Jack Cade's rebellion.

This year there were great commotions in several parts of the kingdom, principally occasioned by the oppression of the Barons and Clergy on the Commons, the latter of which assembled in great numbers in the counties of *Kent* and *Essex*, under the command of *John Cade*, an *Irishman*, who (assuming the name of *Mortimer*, and pretending to be of royal extraction) made himself master of the city of *London*, where he behaved with the greatest insolence and cruelty. On this occasion the King sent his royal mandate to the Mayor and Citizens of *Exeter*, commanding them to be strictly watchful, and to prevent any rebels from gaining admittance into their city; the Citizens accordingly put themselves in arms, repaired the walls, scoured the ditches, and held themselves in readiness to repel any sudden attack; but the defeat of the rebels, and death of *Cade*, happily freed the country, for a short time, from civil commotions and domestic broils.

The King's letter to the Citizens to prepare themselves for defence.

1451.

The King, in his tour through the *West*, on his entry into the

CHAP. II.

The King visits this city.

His reception.

Hollingshead.

county of *Devon*, lodged one night at the Abbey of *Ford*,* from thence he went to *Ottery St. Mary*, where he was received with great solemnity by the Canons, and after resting there two nights proceeded on his journey towards this city, and was met by the Knights and Gentlemen of the county of *Devon*, at *Honiton's Clist*, and soon after by the Mayor and Commonalty of this city, in number upwards of three hundred, richly apparelled in their livery gowns, of a murrey colour, with black velvet capes and facings, having on each shoulder a coif, on which was embroidered the city arms, (on a shield, party, per pale, gules, and sable, a castle triple towered, or;) and at *Liverydole* was received by the Clergy in their copes and vestments, and conducted into the city. At the Cross, without South-gate, the Mayor delivered to the King the keys of the gate, and rode in before him, bare-headed, carrying the Mace through *Southgate-Street*, † to *Carfoix*, ‡ and from thence to *St. Michael's Gate*, § where he was received by the Bishop, Canons, and Choir, in their richest copes. The King then alighted from his horse, and proceeded on foot to the Cathedral, up to the high altar, where he remained during Divine service, and was thence conducted to the Bishop's Palace, and there continued eight days. During his residence at the Palace he (with his suite) was elegantly entertained, at the joint expence of the church and city.

Two men found guilty of high treason.

The King, while staying in this city, issued out a Commission to his Judges, to hold a court of general goal delivery, and for that purpose they kept the court in the Bishop's Hall: two men were found guilty of high treason, and ordered to be executed; but the Bishop and Clergy asserting that the Judges sat in commission within their sanctuary contrary to the privileges of Holy Church, the King, to appease their clamours, pardoned both the offenders.

A. D. 1453.

From the weakness of the King's government, and the disagreement among the chief commanders, the *English* were dispossessed of all their conquests in *France*, except the town of *Calais*, with a small territory belonging to it; this occasioned great discontents at home; and the partiality of the King for his favourites so disgusted the noblemen, that many openly espoused the cause of the *Duke of York*, and hence a scene

* Ford Abbey is a detached part of Devon, near four miles from Axminster.

† It appears from this account that the principal road leading into the city, from the East, was the Magdalen-street road.

‡ Carfoix—the four ways.

§ Now Broad-gate.

of anarchy and confusion prevailed throughout the kingdom. A dispute arose at this time between *Thomas Courtenay*, Earl of *Devon*, and the *Lord William Bonville*, Baron of *Shute*, which, according to some authors, originated about a dog; but it seems more probable that it arose from the complexion of the times, and the different interests of the principals, the Earl being a strenuous defender of the house of *Lancaster*, and the *Lord Bonville* of that of *York*. The quarrel concerning the dog might heighten the animosity. The two Barons agreed to decide their differences by the strength of their arms; and accordingly both parties met on *Clist Heath*, near this city, where (after a sharp conflict, and several being killed and wounded on both sides) *Lord Bonville* was defeated, and, with his followers, retreated to *Exeter:* they were received within the walls, and the gates were closed after them, to prevent the pursuers following: this reception gave great offence to the Earl, who endeavoured to force an entrance, but was repelled by the Citizens. At length, by the mediation of the resident Clergy, the parties were seemingly satisfied and departed by different routes.*

Quarrel between the Earl of Devon and Lord Bonville.

Hollingshead.

Battle of Clist Heath

Lord Bonville defeated takes refuge in Exeter.

A. D. 1457. East-gate falls down.

The *East-gate* of the city becoming ruinous (being coeval with the walls) fell down in the middle of the day, but providentially without hurt to any person, though several were passing by at the time.

1458. Midsummer Watch.

It was customary in those days, on Midsummer-eve, to form a grand procession, in which the Mayor, accompanied by the Aldermen and Common Council, in their robes, preceded by the city waits, sergeants at mace, and other officers, all mounted on horseback, and followed by the principal Citizens, and incorporated trades in armour, each company being distinguished by sumptuous pageants and devices proper to their several trades,† and thus they paraded the city walls, to examine whether any repairs were necessary, and then passed in the same procession through the principal streets, each individual and company endeavouring to outvie each other in the brightness of armour and sumptuousness of equipage: this was termed the Midsummer Watch, the principal intent of which was to inspect the arms of the Citizens, to see if they were kept in proper repair, and fit

Citizens' arms to be kept in repair.

* It does not appear from history that the city of *Exeter* openly espoused the cause of either of the contending parties, but it should seem that this kind reception of *Bonville* was owing to the animosity that had so long existed between the *Courtenay* family and the Citizens.

† Each company was commonly preceded by a statue, as large as life, (finely painted and gilt) of the tutelar saint to whom the fraternity was dedicated—as *St. Peter*, of the *Fishmongers; St. Luke*, of the *Painters*, &c.

CHAP. II.

for immediate use; also to punish, by fines, such as were found deficient in such care of their arms.

Dispute about precedence, between the Cordwainers and Tuckers.

At the procession of this year a dispute arose between the *Cordwainers* and *Tuckers* concerning the right of precedence; this the Mayor appeased, by ordering the companies to march together, one of each company hand in hand. *John Kelly*, the late Mayor, refusing to attend in his place on this day's watch, according to ancient custom, was fined ten marks, which he accordingly paid.

A. D. 1459.

St. Peter's Church profaned and shut up.

Some young gentlemen happening to quarrel, in the body of the Cathedral of *St. Peter*, they proceeded to blows, and in this affray several persons were much hurt and wounded; this (according to the superstition of the times) so profaned the church, by having human blood spilt in it, that the Dean and Chapter ordered the doors to be shut, and Divine service to cease, until the church could be newly consecrated: this (as the Bishop was absent) was performed by one *Thomas*, a suffragan to the Bishop of *Bath*.*

1460.

King taken prisoner.

The Duke of *York* having taken the King prisoner at the battle of *St. Alban*, and causing himself to be declared Protector, assumed the whole government into his own hands, leaving the King nothing but the empty name; the Queen endeavoured to release the royal captive, assembled a body of troops, and sent letters to his friends, desiring their assistance: the Citizens of *Exeter* commiserating the unhappy state of their monarch, raised a considerable sum by voluntary contributions, and also levied thirty-one soldiers; these they armed and maintained at their own expence, and sent them, with the money, to the Queen's army, accompanied by a messenger to assure her of their stedfast loyalty to the King, and their readiness to assist him to the utmost of their power. The Queen gave battle to the Duke at *Wakefield*, which proved fatal to him, he and his second son (the Earl of *Rutland*, twelve years of age) being slain in the conflict, his army totally routed, and the King rescued from his captivity.

Exeter sends money and soldiers to his assistance.

Duke of York defeated and slain.

1461.

This sunshine of relief to the *Lancasterian* party lasted but a short time; the Duke of *York's* eldest son, *Edward*, Earl of *March*, and *Richard Nevil*, Earl of *Warwick*, having collected together the scattered remains of the routed army,

* From the confusion through the kingdom, by the pretensions of the houses of York and Lancaster, it is probable that this quarrel arose among some of the partisans on each side, who happened to meet in the Cathedral, where (notwithstanding the sacredness of the place) they could not prevent their animosities from breaking out into acts of violence.

and, being joined by the whole power of the *Yorkists*, again took the field. On Palm Sunday, 1461, they met the Queen's army at *Towton*, where a bloody battle was fought, which lasted from morning till night, and ended in the total defeat of the *Lancasterians*.

Battle of Towton.

In this battle (according to historians) fell the flower of the *English* nobility, and 36,776 men were slain; by this decisive victory the whole of the *Lancasterian* power was broken, the King again fell into the hands of his enemies, and being deposed by an Act of (a time-serving) Parliament, *Edward*, Earl of *March* was proclaimed King, and crowned at *London* on the 29th June following.

The Queen defeated & the King deposed.

This year the great Conduit at *Carfoix* (being ruinous) was new built, chiefly through the interest of *William Duke*, late Mayor, who not only took on himself the overseeing of the work, but covered it with lead at his own expence. A particular account of this Conduit will be given in its place.

Carfoix Conduit rebuilt.

MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of Henry VI.

1423.
John Batten.
John Hull.
William Bishop.
William French.
William Upton.

1424.
John Cook.
John Salter.
Thomas Nymett.
John Coscom.
Nicholas Trelawney.

1425.
Robert Voisey.
William May.
Peter Plenty.
John Cross.
John Smert.

1426.
Thomas Easton.
William Oke.
William Upton.
Walter Merryfield.
William Bishop.

1427.
John Hull.
John Cross.
Stephen Butterford.
John Trelawney.
John Bacon.

1428.
John Shillingford.
William Upton.
John Smert.
John Cook.
William Servington.

1429.
John Shillingford.
William Upton.
John Oram.
John Beaufitz.
Bennet Drew.

1430.
John Hull.
Thomas Cook.
Nicholas Athole.
Andrew Thring.
Walter Pope.

1431.
William Cook.
John Cross.
John Smert.
John Troly.
Walter Merryfield.

1432.
Thomas Cook.
John Bacon.
John Kirton.
Walter Pope.
Ralph Crudge.

1433.
John Salter.
Nicholas Athole.
Richard Orenge.
John Bagg.
Robert Ford.

1434.
William Cook.

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John Kirton.
Andrew Thring.
John Bagg.
Thomas Parson.

1435.
Thomas Cook.
John Kirton.
Andrew Thring.
John Bagg.
Thomas Parson.

1436.
John Cutler.
Bennet Drew.
John Coscom.
John Brown.
John Merrifield.

1437.
John Hull.
Richard Orenge.
William Atwill.
John Kelly.
William Hodge.

1438.
Bennet Drew.
Hugh Germin.
Vincent Hart.
John Coscom.
William Duke.

1439.
William Cook.
John Bagg.
John Smert.
Robert Ford.
William Hoody.

1440.
William Upton.
John Keluleigh.
Bennet Winchelsea.
William Crymell.
John Latch.

1441.
Thomas Cook.
Hugh Germin.
Thomas Parsons.
John Coscom.
John James.

1442.
John Cutler.
Peter Bray.
John Obleigh.
John Stanbury.
Andrew Thring.

1443.
Hugh Germin.
William Crymell.
John Clerk.
John Peacock.
Thomas Rouse.

1444.
John Shillingford.
John Beaufitz.
John Taylor.
John Gage.
Nicholas Hamlyn.

1445.
John Hull.
John Clerk.
John Germin.
John Betty.
Walter Swan.

1446.
John Shillingford.
John Germin.
Richard Drewell.
John Babridge.
Thomas Sampson.

1447.
John Shillingford.
John Germin.
John Hammond.
Nicholas Hamlyn.
John Spyne.

1448.
John Cutler.
William Duke.
Walter Sams.
Thomas Evelton.
John Avell.

1449.
Hugh Germin.
Bennet Winchelsea.
William Bishop.
William Atwill.
Thomas Sampson.

1450.
William Crymell.
William Bishop.
William Efford.
John Friend.
Robert May.

1451.
Hugh Germin.
Thomas Rouse.
Thomas Sampson.
John Salmon.
John Hammond.

1452.
Walter Pope.
John Avell.
Thomas Evelton.
Andrew Thring.
Walter Pafford.

1453.
Hugh Germin.
John Tillard.
Walter York.
Robert Smith.
Henry Dolling.

1454.
Richard Orenge.
John Betty.

Vincent Hart.
Thomas Kelly.
John Spyne.

1455.
Hugh Germin.
Richard Drewell.
Thomas Evelton.
Thomas Bowyer.
John Turner.

1456.
William Duke.
Thomas Calwoodley.
Richard Jeffery.
Robert Smyth.
William Fry.

1457.
John Kelly.
John Friend.
William Hogge.
John Turner.
John Hammond.

1458.
Richard Drewell.
Robert Smyth.
William Hogge.
John Hamlyn.
John Barsley.

1459.
John Betty.
John Spyne.
John Turner.
Richard Rumwell.
John Thomas.

1460.
William Duke.
Thomas Calwoodley.
William Hogge.
Thomas Hayle.
Richard Duke.

1461.
John Kelly.
John Hamlyn.
John Hammond.
John Turner.
Thomas Bowyer.

Edward IV. did not long enjoy his crown in peace; the Queen having escaped with her son, the Prince of *Wales*, into *Scotland*, prevailed on the *Scottish* King to assist her with a body of troops; these were augmented by a great number of auxiliaries sent to her by the *French* Monarch; and, thus strengthened, she again entered *England*, in 1463, but was defeated by *John Neville*, *Baron*, of *Montacute*, at the head of a numerous army; the unfortunate *Henry*, not knowing whither to retire, and doubting the fidelity of the *Scotch*, endeavoured to conceal himself in England, but being discovered, was seized and carried to *London*, in the most ignominious manner, and committed close prisoner to the Tower.

A. D. 1461. Edward IV

1463. Henry again imprisoned.

The Guildhall of this city being in a ruinous state was built in a more convenient and elegant manner; the Court of Hustings was floored with plank, and elevated above the pavement, wainscotted round, and proper seats were erected for the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council, and galleries for the Juries.*

1464. Guildhall rebuilt.

This year is most remarkable for the art of printing being brought into *England*, by *John Caxton*, a citizen of *London*, who, being sent to *Haerlem*, persuaded one of the compositors

Printing first brought into England.

* There is an old building now standing in Waterbear-street which, according to tradition, was the ancient Guildhall; and, from the style of the building, and its great extent, this seems very probable. The architecture is evidently Saxon, and it appears to have been erected long before the Norman Conquest. Whether or not the hall was removed at this time to its present scite cannot be ascertained, as no historian mentions it. The present Guildhall was erected on the ground originally occupied by a Chapel dedicated to St. George.

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to carry off a set or fount of letters, and to embark with him, in the night, for *England*. The first printing press in this kingdom was erected in *Westminster Abbey;* and soon after a second was set up in *Tavistock Abbey*, in this county.

A. D. 1466.

Act for paving the streets.

The streets and passages in this city being unpaved, and full of noisome and dangerous pits, an act was procured (chiefly through the interest of *Thomas Calwoodley* and *Richard Clark*, the representatives in parliament) for the paving thereof, and removing all nuisances; and thus the city became more pleasant and healthy.

1467.

Dispute with the Bishop concerning a tower on the walls.

A dispute arose between the Bishop of Exeter and the Citizens, concerning a tower on the city walls, at the lower end of the Bishop's orchard, and where the Bishop's prison was kept; for which reason he claimed it as an inheritance of right. A trial commenced before the King's Justices of Assize, at the Castle, and a verdict was given in favor of the Citizens, who soon after caused the tower to be taken down, and the materials thereof to be used towards the reparation of the city walls.

1469.

Edward defeated and taken prisoner.

Escapes. Defeats Warwick.

A difference between *King Edward* and his principal supporter, the Earl of *Warwick*, now burst into a flame; the Earl, joined by his brother, the Archbishop of *York*, the Marquis of *Montacute*, and *George*, Duke of *Clarence*, (*Edward's* own brother) raised a powerful army, defeated *Edward*, took him prisoner, and sent him to *Middleham* Castle, in *Yorkshire;* but he found means (by bribing his guards) to make his escape; and, having levied a greater army than the former, attacked the Earl so furiously that he made his escape to *France;* and the Duke of *Clarence*, escaping westward, took refuge in *Exeter*, where (in regard to his affinity to the *King*) he was treated with great respect, and entertained at the city's expence, till a ship could be procured for his conveyance to *France*.

Clarence escapes to Exeter.

1470.

Dethroned. Flies to Holland.

The *Earl* soon returned and defeated *Edward*, forced him to abdicate the throne, and fly to *Holland:* he then restored *Henry*, and, summoning a parliament, *Edward* was declared a traitor and usurper, and all his estates were confiscated.

1471.

Warwick defeated and slain.

The next year *Edward* returned to *England* with 2000 men, and levying, in a few days, a powerful army, marched towards *London*, and was met by *Warwick*, at *Barnet*, where, after a severe conflict, the Earl was defeated and slain. *Edward* immediately proceeded to *London:* the unfortunate *Henry* was again imprisoned, and *Edward* re-ascended the throne.

Causeway to Cowley Bridge paved by a Priest.

The causeway leading to *Cowley Bridge* was paved by a Priest.*

* Part of this pavement is still remaining (1800.) There is a tradition that

Queen *Margaret* landed (with forces which she had procured in *France*) at *Weymouth:* this gave fresh spirit to the *Lancasterians*, who assembled themselves in different parts of the kingdom; the Duke of *Somerset* and the Earl of *Devon* came to *Exeter*, where they set up the standard of King *Henry*, and sent for *Sir Hugh Courtenay*, of *Powderham*, *Sir John Arundel*, and the principal men of their party in *Devon* and *Cornwall*, who immediately joined them, together with their followers, which were almost the whole power of the two counties. The Queen advanced to *Bath*, and was there joined by the *Devon* and *Cornwall* forces. *Edward* was not idle: he soon assembled a powerful army, and met the Queen at *Tewkesbury;* here a bloody battle ensued, which ended in the total defeat of the Queen's army, who, with her son, the Prince of *Wales*, and the Duke of *Somerset* were made prisoners; the Earl of *Devon*, with many persons of note, and upwards of 3000 of their followers were slain: the Queen was treated by the conquerors with the greatest indignity, and the day after the battle the Prince of *Wales* was most barbarously murdered, by the Duke of *Gloucester*, in the presence of *Edward;* and the Duke of *Somerset*, with others of the nobility, were beheaded without any form of trial.

A. D. 1472.

Henry's standard set up, and the Lancasterians assemble at Exeter.

Queen's army defeated—she is taken prisoner—her son murdered—Earl of Devon slain.

Edward not thinking himself secure while *Henry* was living hinted his fears to his ferocious brother, the Duke of *Gloucester*, who repaired to the Tower, where he stabbed *Henry* to the heart. *Edward*, thus freed from his rival, made a tour through his dominions; and, approaching this city, in company with the Queen and the Prince, his son, he was met at *Liverydole* by the Mayor and principal Citizens, on horseback, richly apparelled in the livery of the city: at his entrance into *East-gate* the Mayor presented him with the Keys and Maces, which the King returned: he then proceeded to the Guildhall, (the Mayor riding bare-headed, and carrying a Mace before him) where he was presented, in the name of the Citizens, with a purse containing one hundred gold nobles, and the Queen and Prince with £20 in gold each: this was most graciously received, and the King, in return for their loyalty,

Henry murdered.

1473.

Edward comes to Exeter.

this Priest was guilty of fornication and murder; having first debauched a young woman, who proved afterwards with child; and that he, in order to hide his shame, enticed her into *Duryard Wood*, and there murdered her; this crime being discovered, he was, by way of penance, condemned to execute this work himself, without any assistance, and that he was seven years in completing it. There seems some mark of probability in this, when we consider that in those days of ignorance and superstition the Clergy were exempt from the secular power; and that, let their crimes be ever so henious, penance was the only punishment.

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Upwards of 1400 Noblemen and Gentlemen executed.

Edward, in the course of his journey, exercised the greatest cruelty on the partisans of the house of *Lancaster:* upwards of 1400 noblemen and gentlemen (adherents to King *Henry's* interest) were ordered, in cold blood, to be put to death; and he even caused his own brother, the Duke of *Clarence*, to be drowned in a butt of Malmsey wine: these executions struck the nation with terror; and this appears to have given reason for the civil reception he met with from the Citizens of *Exeter*, (more out of fear than love) as they had, through the whole course of these troubles, adhered to the cause of *Henry*, whose unfortunate end they could not so soon forget.

A. D. 1475. The Tailors procure a new charter from the King.

Law suit commenced thereon.

The Corporation of *Tailors* procured a new charter from the King, which gave great offence to the Mayor and Common Council, who conceived it to be an infringement on their liberties: they therefore commenced a law suit, which was carried on with great acrimony and expence for two years; at length the King interfered, and sent his orders, under his privy seal, to *Dr. Peter Courtenay*, then Dean of this Cathedral, commanding both parties to come to a final issue. The Dean accordingly acquainted them with the King's orders, which put a stop to further proceedings in law: however, the animosity continued for several years after.

Complaint of the city Bakers against the country ones.

The country Bakers making a common practice of bringing their bread into the city, and hawking it from house to house, to the great detriment of the city Bakers, and repugnant to their franchises, they preferred a complaint to the Mayor, who, with his brethren, (in common council) enacted a bye law, which restrained them from hawking, but gave them liberty to bring their bread to the public market, and to have standings for the sale thereof (on market days only) near the great conduit. †

1479. Great Pestilence.

A great pestilence raged throughout the kingdom, from the beginning of September, 1479, to the end of November, 1480, which swept away an incredible number of people in the cities of *London* and *Exeter*.

1480.

Complaints being made against *John Bonnefant*, one of the Attornies of the Provost Court, in this city, as being guilty of

* Notwithstanding this donation of a sword, it does not appear in history that any Sword-bearer was appointed to that office until the 12th of Henry VII. A. D. 1497.

† This custom has not been discontinued many years: the writer of this well remembers when the country Bakers used to bring their bread in panniers, and stand with it at the upper end of *Cook-Row*, between the *Globe Alehouse*, and the corner of *Fore-Street*.

forgeries and other misdemeanours; a thorough investigation took place, and the crimes being proved against him he was disfranchised, and forbad to practice any more in that court; but not regarding this, and continuing his infamous conduct, a complaint was renewed against him to the King, who sent a commission to *Thomas*, Marquis of *Dorset*, the Lord-Lieutenant of the county of *Devon*, to hear and determine the same: the Marquis came to *Exeter;* and, after a fair trial, finding him guilty of the crimes laid to his charge, passed this remarkable sentence upon him: that he should be carried through the city on horseback, on a market day, with a paper fixed to his breast, on which should be legibly written, *for forging false deeds and evidences, and counterfeiting seals, evidently proved;* and the sentence was executed accordingly.

John Bonnefant, an Attorney, found guilty of Forgery.

Remarkable sentence upon him.

The charter of incorporation of the *Cordwainers* and *Curriers* of this city was renewed under the common seal thereof. 1481.

The *Bakers* were incorporated by the Mayor and Common Council, under their common seal. 1482.

The charter of the *Glovers* and *Skinners* was also renewed.

An order was made by the Mayor and Common Council that every Receiver-General of this city should, on particular days, wear a scarlet gown, the same as the Mayor and Aldermen, but for distinction without a tippet of fur.

The King died of a fever, on the 9th of April, 1483, and was succeeded by his eldest son, *Edward.* 1483.

MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of Edward IV.

1462.
Hugh Germin.
John Thomas.
William Aysh.
Walter Gervais.
Thomas Hayle.

1463.
Richard Drewell.
Richard Jeffery.
John Hammond.
John Coming.
Henry Winchelsea.

1464.
Hugh Germin.
Richard Rumwell.
John Hart.
Robert Chubb.
Richard Baker.

1465.
Richard Drewell.
John Hammond.
Robert Symons.
John Coming.
John Ruet.

1466.
Hugh Germin.
Thomas Hayle.
Richard Clarke.
William Obley.
Stephen Rudgway.

1467.
Thomas Calwoodley.
Richard Baker.
Robert Russel.
Thomas Pyke.
Nicholas Nawns.

1468.
John Hamlyn.
Robert Chubb.
Thomas Bowyer.
Richard Nawns.
John Luffingcot.

1469.
Robert Smith.
John Coming.
William Fownding.
Robert Newton.
Robert Giles.

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1470.
Hugh Germin.
Richard Clarke.
John Orenge.
Thomas Bond.
John Gibbs.

1471.
Richard Jeffery, Ob.
Hugh Germin.
Walter Gervais.
David Johns.
John Tybott.
John Bernard.

1472.
Richard Clarke.
John Orenge.
John Atwill.
William Dark.
Thomas Ivelton.

1473.
Richard Rumwell.
William Obleigh.
John Tybott.
Robert Bonnefant.
Richard Byrch.

1474.
Hugh Germin.
John Atwill.
David Johns.
Thomas Ivelton.
John Starr.

1475.
John Orenge.
Stephen Rudgway.
Roger Worth.
Henry Hanneford.
John Taylor.

1476.
John Atwill.
David Johns.
Matthew Jubb.
Richard Waggott.
John Germin.

1477.
John Kelly.
Roger Worth.
Robert Newton.
John Starr.
John Gibbs.

1478.
William Obleigh.
Robert Newton.
Richard Germin.
John Hampton.
John Coleshill.

1479.
John Atwill.
Robert Russell.
John Atwill.
John Harlewin.
John Weston.

1480.
Thomas Calwoodley.
Robert Symons.
William Duke.
John Matthews.
Henry Redway.

1481.
Richard Drewell.
John Rewer.
John Down.
John Calwoodley.
William Lang.

1482.
Royer Worth.
Matthew Jubb.
Thomas Pyke.
William King.
John Slugg.

A. D. 1483. Edward V. The young King and his brother murdered in the Tower.

Gloucester, who had (as before observed) already steeped his hands in royal blood, got (under pretensions of their safety) the young King, with his brother, the Duke of *York*, into his possession, and shut them up in the Tower of *London;* where, by his assasssins, he caused the young King, then but twelve years of age, and his brother to be smothered in their beds, after a short reign (if it may be so termed) of two months and twelve days.

Richd. III. elected King.

Gloucester having thus removed the principal objects to his ambitious views procured a parliament for his purpose, who bastardized the posterity of his brothers, (*Edward* and *Clarence)* and voted him the vacant throne, as the only lineal descendant of the Duke of *York:* but a confederacy was formed against the usurper, by many of the principal nobility of both parties, in favor of *Henry*, Earl of *Richmond:* many of the principal men in *Devon* and *Cornwall* joined this confederacy;

among these were *Sir Edward Courtenay*, *Peter Courtenay*, Bishop of *Exeter*, *Sir William Courtenay*, and others of great note.*

Richard soon got intelligence of the plot, and marched against the revolters, who were headed by the Duke of *Buckingham;* and the Duke, being deserted by his army, was betrayed, taken prisoner, and beheaded immediately; this struck terror into the others, who endeavoured individually to escape. *Richard* marched westward, (in order to smother the very embers of the revolt) and came to this city, where he had before sent *Lord Scroop*, with a special commission to try the conspirators; accordingly a court was held for that purpose at *Torrington*, where *Thomas*, Marquis of *Dorset*, *Peter Courtenay*, Bishop of *Exeter*, *Sir Edward Courtenay*, *Walter Courtenay*, his brother, and others (to the number of five hundred) who had found means to escape, were outlawed: and *Sir Thomas St. Leger*, (who had married *Richard's* own sister) and *Thomas Rayme*, *Esq.* were found guilty of high treason, taken to *Exeter*, and beheaded at the *Carfoix*. †

Richard comes to Exeter.

Special commission held at Torrington.

Sir Thomas St. Leger and Thomas Rayme, Esq beheaded at Exeter.

On the King's entrance into this city he was received at the East-gate by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council, in their robes, accompanied by the corporated bodies, in their livery gowns; and *Thomas Hext*, the *Recorder*, congratulated him in an elegant oration, ‡ (for which the city bestowed on him a scarlet gown:) the Mayor then delivered to the King the maces and keys of the city gates, and presented him with a purse containing two hundred gold nobles; the King then returned the maces and keys, and was conducted to the Bishop's Palace, where he lodged during his stay, and was elegantly entertained for the time at the city's expence; as were also the noblemen and others of his suite, at the houses of the principal Citizens. The King visited the chief places of the city, and was highly pleased with its pleasant and healthy situation, as well

Richard's reception at Exeter.

* *Mr. Carew*, in his *Survey of Cornwall*, says, that so great was the influence of the *Courtenay* family at this period, that the inhabitants both of *Devon* and *Cornwall* flocked to their standard.

† Corruptly from the French, *quatre voix*, the four ways. This was not so contracted by buildings as at present, but formed a square, (where the streets crossed each other) and at each corner was a statue, similar to that now remaining at the corner of North-gate-street: one of these (some years since) stood in *Alderman Coplestone's* court, (now *Mr. Hunt's*, Painter) and was supposed to have formed one angle of the square.

‡ The Recorder could not say much in praise of *Richard's* virtues; but as many of the Citizens were involved in the late conspiracies, (from their connexions with the *Courtenay* family) they no doubt dreaded his vindictive disposition, and endeavoured to soften his resentment; and they succeeded to their wishes.

CHAP. II. as the strength and elevated site of the castle;* and he returned to *London* fully gratified with his reception at *Exeter*.

A. D. 1484. The front of the Guildhall and the Council Chamber was rebuilt.

The King demand 20 soldiers, who are sent on the instant.

Richard, expecting an invasion from the Earl of *Richmond*, sent letters to the Mayor of *Exeter*, by *Sir Ralph Hastings*, demanding a supply of twenty soldiers, who were levied on the instant, completely armed, and sent under the Knight's command to the place appointed, where they remained twenty days, being maintained at the city's expence; but as no invasion took place this year they were dismissed and sent home again.

1485. The universal discontent in the kingdom seemed to further the Earl of *Richmond's* pretensions; and great numbers of *English* exiles (who fled from *Richard's* tyranny) joining him daily, encouraged him to proceed in his intended expedition: he therefore set out from *Harfleur*, the 30th July, 1485,

The Earl of Richmond lands in Wales. and landed safely at *Milford Haven*, in *Wales:* he was accompanied by the exiles and nearly 2,000 men, who had been sent to his assistance by the *French* King, and on his landing he was joined by *Sir Ralph ap Thomas*, at the head of a considerable body of *Welchmen;* and by *Sir William Stanley* at the

Battle of Bosworth. head of 2,000 more: his army thus increasing daily, he marched forward and was met by *Richard*, at *Bosworth*, in *Leicestershire*. *Richard's* army was defeated, and he himself slain,

Richard slain; and Richmond proclaimed King. while the field of battle resounded on all sides, "Long live King *Henry* VII."

MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of Edward V. and Richard III.

1483.	1484.	1485.
John Atwill.	*Matthew Jubb.*	*Robert Russel.*
John Coleshill.	John Weston.	Henry Hanneford.
William Dark.	John Hooker.	Philip Atwill.
Thomas Pyke.	John Whitelock.	Matthew Allington.
John Symons.	John Starr.	Nicholas Hamlyn.

1485. *Henry*, having ascended the throne, espoused the Princess

Henry VII. *Elizabeth*, (the daughter of Edward IV.) thereby uniting the claims of both the houses, whose pretensions had distracted

* Historians relate that on *Richard's* asking the name of the castle he was answered *Rougemont*, which greatly terrified him, (as he had been told by a soothsayer that his days would not be long after he had seen *Richmond*) mistaking the similarity of sound in the names: but it is likely this was invented after his death.

the nation and deluged it with blood, during the greater part of a century.

This year an unheard of disorder visited the nation, termed the *Sweating Sickness;* it rapidly spread itself, and carried off multitudes, particularly in this city.

A. D. 1487.

The *Barber Surgeons* were first incorporated under the common seal of the city.

Ale Conners (or *Tasters*) were appointed, to examine whether the beer brewed for sale was good and wholesome.

1488.

The King demands 200 soldiers which are sent accordingly.

The King intending to send an army of 8000 men to the assistance of the Duke of *Bretagne*, (then at war with the *French*) ordered his royal mandate to this city, for a supply of two hundred soldiers; who were accordingly levied, completely armed, and sent to *Portsmouth*, to join the forces there assembled.

Earl of Devon made free of the City.

The privileges annexed to cities and corporate towns were now thought worthy the acceptance of the greatest Barons; accordingly we find that this year *Edward Courtenay*, Earl of *Devon*, was made free of this city. This is the first honorary freeman that appears upon record.

1489.

The King's order for arming the Citizens.

A special commission came from the King commanding the Mayor and Common Council to make a general inspection of the arms and armour of the Citizens; and thereupon every inhabitant was ordered to furnish himself and family with sufficient arms, and a due report thereof was made to his Majesty.

Weavers & Fullers incorporated.

The *Weavers* and *Fullers* were incorporated under the common seal of the city.

1493.

Wheat sold at 6*d.* per Bushel.

This year the best wheat was sold in *Exeter* market at 6*d.* per bushel; which, according to the value of money at that period, answers to near 2*s.* 3*d.* of the present coinage.

Hatters incorporated.

The *Cappers*, *Haberdashers*, and *Feltmakers*, (*Hatters*) received a charter of incorporation under the common seal of the city.

1495.

Tolls of the Market.

The town duties having been evaded the Mayor and Common Council caused the ancient usage of the city to be restored, (according to their charters) and issued an order that every person not being free of the city that should expose for sale any merchandize, wares, or other commodities, within the limits of the same, should pay a toll of one half-penny per day: this custom is still continued, (but increased to a penny) called market dues, and collected by a person who farms the said toll of the chamber.

1496.

Dissension about electing a Mayor.

This year great dissensions arose among the Citizens concerning the election of a Mayor; when (for preventing the same in future) it was ordered by the Mayor and Common Council, that no election of a Mayor, or other officer should be held

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good, unless the same was made according to the ancient usage and custom of the city; and that the Mayor, with the twenty-four members of the Common Council, should be the only electors. It was also ordered that the Mayors in future should have their *scarlet gowns* lined with *sarcenet:* the Receivers to have gowns of *crimson*, in grain; and that every member of the Common Council should wear a gown of *violet*, (or murray colour) in grain.

Different robes to be worn by the Mayor, &c.

The King's avarice and arbitrary measures (for procuring money) discontented his subjects, and made his reign a continued series of troubles and divisions, which encouraged the partisans of the house of *York* to set up several imposters; one of which, *Lambert Simnel*, the son of a Baker, at *Oxford*, being a comely personage, and greatly resembling the young Earl of *Warwick*, son and heir to the late Duke of *Clarence*, (whom the King had shut up in the Tower) declared himself, by the insinuation of a crafty priest, named *Richard Simon*, to be the identical Earl of *Warwick*, escaped from his confinement, and the lawful heir of the house of *York:* this drew many to his standard; but *Simnel*, after various adventures, was defeated by the King's forces, at *Stoke*, near *Lincoln*, and made prisoner, together with the Priest, his tutor; when (confessing their imposture) the King spared their lives; made *Simnel* one of his falconers, but imprisoned the Priest for life.

Lambert Simnel's rebellion.

A. D. 1497. Another rebellion in Cornwall.

No sooner was this ended than another of more consequence broke out in *Cornwall;* where the people thinking themselves aggrieved by a new subsidy levied on them, assembled together in great numbers, under the lead of *Thomas Flammock*, a Lawyer, and *Michael Joseph*, a Blacksmith, of *Bodmin;* and proceeding to open acts of violence, seized on the *Provost* of *Penryn*, (one of the commissioners for collecting the said subsidy) and most barbarously murdered him; they then marched towards *Exeter*, but the Citizens, apprised of their intentions, put themselves in arms, barricadoed the bridge, and opposed their entrance. The rebels thus opposed altered their route, proceeded to *Tiverton*, and from thence to *Taunton*, where they were joined by *Thomas Touchet, Lord Audley*, who, taking upon himself the chief command, marched them (without opposition) through *Wells, Salisbury*, and *Winchester*, and encamped on *Black Heath*, near *London*. The King assembled what forces he could, and a bloody conflict ensued, in which the *Cornish-*

Rebels come to Exeter. Are repulsed. Proceed to Tiverton.

* *Mr. Isaac*, in his *Memorials*, is mistaken when he places *Simnel's* rebellion after *Perkin Warbeck's*, it happened the year before; also in his account of *Simnel's* besieging *Exeter*, as no such event ever took place, his rebellion being confined to the North of England.

men were defeated after fighting with the greatest courage and obstinacy: their ringleaders were taken prisoners; *Lord Audley* (after being degraded from his dignity) was beheaded; and *Flammock* and *Joseph*, the Blacksmith, were hanged, drawn, and quartered, and their heads and quarters fixed on stakes, and set up in different places. Cornish rebels defeated.

Before this commotion was well over another Pretender appeared, (this gave *Henry* more trouble than the former) his name was *Perkin Warbeck*, the son of a converted jew; he was born in *England*, spoke his native language well, and being of a comely personage, pretended to be *Richard*, Duke of *York*, brother of King *Edward* V.; and that he had escaped from the hands of his cruel uncle, *Richard*. Patronised and acknowledged as such by *Margaret*, Duchess of *Burgundy*, who still retained her family hatred to the house of *Lancaster*, he easily persuaded a number of idle and discontented people to espouse his cause: this was greatly contributed to by the Kings of *France* and *Scotland*, from envy to King *Henry:* the former, by his persuasions, and the latter by giving him in marriage the *Lady Catherine Gordon*, his own kinswoman. Perkin Warbeck pretends to be the Duke of York.

Warbeck having by these means collected a great number of followers attempted a descent in *Kent;* but being repulsed, with the loss of many of his men, he took refuge in *Ireland*. Here, being informed of the commotions in *Cornwall*, and understanding that the *Cornishmen*, exasperated at their late defeat, were ready to renew their rebellion, he mustered about four-score men, which, with his wife, he embarked on board four small ships, and landing in *Cornwall*, proceeded to *Bodmin;* where he so prevailed on the people by his fair speeches and large promises, that upwards of 3000 soon joined his standard: thus reinforced he, by the advice of his three principal counsellors, *John Heron*, a bankrupt Mercer, *Richard Skelton*, a Tailor, and *John Astley*, a Scrivener, marched towards *Exeter:* his army being increased on its march to upwards of 6000, he sat down before the city, and summoned the Citizens to surrender, commanding them to open their gates and admit him and his followers: this being refused the rebels began a furious assault; but the Citizens (fully prepared) gave them a warm reception, and repulsed them as often as they returned to the assault; opening their gates and discharging their *Port Pieces,** charged with pieces of glass, old iron, and musket Lands in Cornwall. Besieges Exeter.

* One of those Port Pieces was remaining (in the author's memory) and laid on the left side of the passage under the East-gate: it was composed of flat iron

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balls, which made a great slaughter of the assailants. The rebels finding no hopes of success turned the siege into a blockade, thinking to compel the Citizens to surrender by famine. The King being informed of their distress sent *Lord Daubeny*, at the head of a body of forces, to attempt their relief, while he himself collected an army to follow them; but before *Daubeny's* arrival, *Edward Courtenay*, Earl of *Devon*, accompanied by *Lord William Courtenay*, his son, *Sir Edmund Carew*, *Sir Thomas Trenchard*, *Sir William Courtenay*, of *Powderham*, *Sir Thomas Fulford*, *Sir John Halwell*, *Sir John Crocker*, *Walter Courtenay*, *Peter Edgcombe*, and *William Seymour*, *Esquires*, with many other gentlemen, having collected their tenants, and what other forces they could, came to the Citizens' relief: on this the rebels broke up the siege and marched for *Taunton*, where *Warbeck* found his forces greatly diminished by desertion; and on hearing of the King's approach towards him, he secretly left his army and took sanctuary in the Abbey of *Beaulieu*, in *Hampshire*. The King, hearing of his escape, sent a body of troops in pursuit of him; to these he surrendered himself, on promise of having his life spared; and *Henry* then proceeded to *Exeter*, where hundreds of the rebels, made prisoners, had been sent. On his entrance into the city he was received with great acclamations and conducted to the Guildhall, where he thanked the Citizens in the most grateful manner for their stedfast loyalty and bravery in defending the city committed to their charge; and he assured them of his constant readiness to promote their interest, and protect their privileges. He then, preceded by the clergy, went to the Treasurer's house,* (within the Close) which had been prepared for his reception, and immediately gave orders for the speedy trial of the rebels, most of whom were found guilty and sentenced to death; but the King ordered the ringleaders only to be executed, who were hanged and quartered upon Southernhay; the rest were brought before him, with halters round their necks, and, falling on their knees, they begged for mercy: the King beheld

The siege raised.

Warbeck retires to Taunton.

Warbeck taken.

King comes to Exeter.

Ringleaders executed.

bars, strongly hooped together with iron, (similar to a cask) and was near twelve feet in length, and twelve inches diameter at the mouth (as far as memory can answer;) it did not seem to have ever been fixed on a carriage, as it had no trunnions, but strong iron rings on the sides, for the purpose of moving it from place to place; and probably when it was discharged it was placed on a mount, or logs of wood laid, for the purpose of elevating it. This curious relic of antiquity was sold for old iron, by a city Receiver, though of little value, being eat out with rust. There is a cannon of the same sort still remaining in the armoury of the Tower of London.

* This house was (very judiciously) taken down, in 1798, to open a view of the eastern part of the Cathedral.

them from a window,* made for that purpose, in the front of the Treasury House: he paused for awhile, and then admonishing them, and exhorting them to future obedience, he pardoned them all, to the great joy of the spectators, who joined the prisoners in loud shouts of "Long live *King Henry* VII."

The other rebels pardoned.

Dissensions still continued among the Citizens concerning the right of electing the Mayor and other Officers; and two rolls of the city records, containing the ancient customs and usages by which the said elections were governed, being either lost or embezzled, an information was laid before the King, who ordered the Mayor and Common Council into his presence, and, in order to prevent future contentions, caused the following regulations to be made, and confirmed them, under his royal sign manual, by the following charter:

New Charter to regulate the election of Mayors and other Officers.

"HENRY, by the Grace of God, King of *England*, and of *France*, and Lord of *Ireland*. To all and every of our subjects to whom shall appertain these our Letters, hearing or seeing, greeting."

King Henry's Charter.

"Whereas, in divers times past, great inconveniences, strifes, and debates, have been had and made within this our city of *Exeter*, for the election of a *Mayor*, *Four Bailiffs*, and *Four-and-twenty* of the *Common Council*, and *Four Sergeants at Mace* of the same, as by the grievous complaints of the Citizens and Inhabitants of our said city, unto us thereupon made, more plainly it hath been declared. And for a peaceable election of and upon the premises hereafter to be used and had within our said city, we, of our special grace, tender love, and zeal, which we have and bear to our said city, and for the redress, restfulness, and common weal of the same, by the assent and consent of the *Common Council* of our said city, and other staid and discreet Citizens of the same, have ordered, provided, and established, that from henceforth there shall be *Four-and-twenty* of the most sufficient and discreet Citizens and Inhabitants of the same, of the *Common Council*, for the term of their lives; and none to be removed except it be for poverty, disease, great age, or other cause reasonable, which causes shall be adjudged and determined by the said *Four-and-twenty*, or by the greater part of them; and after the decease of any of the *Four-and-twenty*, or the removal of them, (as is before rehearsed) that then the residue of the said *Four-and-twenty* shall elect and choose unto them another Citizen, most sufficient, and an inhabitant of our said city, to

Twenty-four Common Councilmen to be chosen.

* This window was evidently of a more modern date than the body of the building.

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Mode of election of Mayor, by the twenty-four Common Councilmen.

To return two to the Freemen.

Receiver and Bailiffs.

And Three Sergeants.

Freemen to return one of the two presented.

The Mayor to appoint the Fourth Sergeant.

fulfil the whole number of the said *Four-and-twenty*, according as the custom is of the *Four-and-twenty Aldermen* within our city of *London*, the names of the said *Four-and-twenty* of the *Common Council* now named before us in a schedule hereunto annexed. Also, we will, that the Monday next before the Feast of *St. Michael*, the Archangel, yearly hereafter, the Mayor of our said city of *Exeter*, for the time being, with his brethren and commons of our said city, that then shall be franchised men, shall assemble themselves in the *Guildhall* of our said city, and then and there the *Four-and-twenty*, or the more part of them, upon their oaths, by privy scrutiny, and by the report of the *Recorder* and *Town-Clerk* for the time being, upon their oaths, shall elect and choose *Two* of the most able Citizens of the said *Four-and-twenty*, for a *Mayor* of our said city, for the year then next ensuing, who hath been approved before in the office of a *Mayor*, or else of a *Receiver*, (the *Mayor* then for the time being always to be excepted from being elected one of the two persons so before named, as is before rehearsed.) Also, we will, that the said *Four-and-twenty* at the same time shall elect and choose *Four Bailiffs*, whereof one shall be *Receiver;* and that as well of the *Four-and-twenty*, as of other the most able Citizens and Inhabitants of our said city, so that they be franchised men, and of good name and fame. Also, we will, that the same day the said *Four-and-twenty* shall elect and choose *Three Sergeants*, franchised men of our said city, who best can, and best may attend and execute their office, after their discretion. And after the election so made and had, then the said *Recorder* and *Town-Clerk*, or one of them, shall publish and shew to the said *Four-and-twenty* which two of them for the election of a *Mayor* hath most voices, and to shew their names to the *Commons*, that be franchised men, and they to choose one of them to be *Mayor* of our said city, for the year then next ensuing, and he that shall so fortune to have most voices of franchised men, to be accepted and admitted for to be *Mayor;* and after this done the said *Recorder* and *Town-Clerk*, or one of them, to present and shew the names of all the other *Officers*, so elected and chosen, unto the said *Commons*, in the presence of the said *Four-and-twenty*. Also, we will, that the Monday next ensuing the said election the said Citizens so elected to be *Mayor* and all other *Officers*, in the open court, at the *Guildhall*, shall be sworn and take their oaths, according to the old usages and laudable customs of our said city; and after that the same *Mayor* so sworn shall choose an able Citizen and

franchised man to be the *Fourth Sergeant* of our said city, which *Sergeant* before this time hath been used to be chosen and named only by the *Mayor*, and none other, according to the old customs of our said city. Also, that none of the said *Four-and-twenty*, nor other *Officer* of our said city, use or wear any Lord's clothing, nor Gentleman's livery, nor bear cognizance from henceforth, upon pain of being deprived of their office and losing their franchises. Also, we will, that what person or persons, of what estate, degree, or condition, whatever he or they be, presume or contend the breach of this our direction and provision, for the election and other premises, as are before rehearsed, that he or they so offending shall forfeit unto the use of our said city *Ten Marks*, and over that stand in our high displeasure. Given under our priory seal, at our Manor of *Greenwich*, the 10th day of July, in the Thirteenth year of our reign."*

None of the city Officers to wear any livery or badge.

To confirm this charter the King appointed *William Frost* (sometime one of his servants, and one of the *Four Bailiffs* of the city the preceding year) to be *Mayor;* and to testify the great regard and esteem he had for the Citizens, in return for their loyalty in bravely defending the city during the late rebellion, he took his *Sword* from his side, which, with a rich *Cap of Maintenance*, he presented to the new *Mayor*, commanding them to be worn and carried before him and his successors on all public occasions: a *Sword-bearer* was accordingly appointed, the first of whom was *Francis Gilbert, Esq.*

The King presents the Mayor with his own Sword, &c.

Sword-bearer appointed.

A. D. 1501.

The Princess *Catharine* of *Spain*, espoused to the King's eldest son, *Arthur*, Prince of *Wales*, arriving at *Plymouth* was conducted by the principal gentry of the county to this city, where she was received with the greatest honour and respect. Her residence was at the house of the Dean: during her stay the weather proving stormy, and the weather-cock of St. Mary Major's steeple (contiguous to her lodgings) making so great a noise, from the violence of the wind, as to prevent her from taking her rest, she complained of it; and, in consequence, the cock was took down, but was replaced after her departure. She rested here several days; then, by short journies, proceeded to *London*, and thence into *Wales*, where she was married to the Prince.

Princess Catharine of Spain arrives in this city.

1503.

A dreadful pestilence ravaged the kingdom and made great havock in this city, carrying off great numbers of the inhabitants; among which were *Robert Newton* and *John Danester*, successively *Mayors;* and *John Guscott* and *John Nordon*, two of the Bailiffs.

A great pestilence.

* This mode of election of the city Officers has been ever since duly employed, and continues to the present time.

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A. D. 1504. This great calamity also carried off whole families of the city, many of whom being freeholders, or who held their lands of the *Mayor*, *Bailiffs*, and *Commonalty*, as chief Lords, by Soccage Tenure, great disputes arose among the claimants of the said lands, (as heirs of the deceased) and therefore an inquisition was held, and the disputes were settled before the Magistrates, when an ancient custom of this city was again put in force, viz: that every freeholder is bound to pay for his relief 2*s*. 6*d*.

1508. Henry dies. King *Henry* died of the gout, at his Palace of *Richmond*, in *Surrey*, and was succeeded by his only surviving son, *Henry*.

MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of Henry VII.

1486.
Thomas Calwoodley.
Thomas Bond.
George Chapman.
Walter Champnys.
John Bonnefant.

1487.
Robert Newton.
John Hooker.
Henry Faux.
Richard Turner.
William Baker.

1488.
Richard Clarke.
George Chapman.
John Rudgway.
John Ector.
William Eastcott.

1489.
Stephen Rudgway.
Matthew Allington.
Robert Bonnefant.
Walter York.
Simon Davy.

1490.
John Hooker.
John Calwoodley.
Richard Undy.
Wymond Austin.
John Welch.

1491.
Robert Chubb.
Nicholas Hamlyn.
Robert Bonnefant.
William Nordon.
John Guscott.

1492.
John Atwill.
Walter Champnys.
John Winter.
Ralph Pudesly.
Richard Cliff.

1493.
John Coleshill.
Richard Undy.
John Danester.
Richard Nordon.
John Merrifield.

1494.
William Obleigh.
John Slugg.
Thomas Andrew.
John Hull.
Thomas Oliver.

1495.
John Calwoodley.
John Bonnefant.
Philip Bullock.
John Wilkin.
Nicholas Aburn.

1496.
John Atwill.
Walter York.
William Frost.
Thomas Langworthy.
William Binks.

1497.
William Frost.
John Danester.
Richard Hewett.
John Buckenam.
William Wilkinson.

1498.
Richard Undy.
John Hull.
John Vigures.
John Brendon.
William Cleyhanger.

1499.
Nicholas Hamlyn.
John Symons.
John Scrivener.
John Wills.
Robert Bonnefant.

1500.
Walter York.
Thomas Andrew.
Jeffery Lewes.
John Bowyer.
Robert Sheerman.

1501.
John Calwoodley.
William Crudge.
William Peck.
Thomas Oliver.
John Whitwever.

1502.
Walter Champnys.
Richard Hewett.
John Nosworthy.
Jervais Lushant.
Thomas Hill.

1503.
Robert Newton, Ob.
John Danester, Ob.
William Frost.
John Guscott, Ob.
John Limpenny.
John Thomas.
John Nordon, Ob.
John Wilkins.

1504.
Thomas Andrew.
John Gumby.
Peter Coleshill.
John Thomas.
John Beadmore.

1505.
William Crudge.
John Bonnefant.
William Shaxton.
John Scott.
John Hoig.

1506.
Richard Hewett.
John Limpenny.
John Orenge.
Richard Duke.
Reynold Russel.

1507.
John Calwoodley.
John Buckenham.
Matthew Moore.
Vincent Scott.
Reynold Russel.

1508.
John Limpenny.
William Wilsford.
William Bonnet.
John Kever.
Wm. Huntington, Ob.
William Matthew.

Henry VIII. as soon as he ascended the throne, was (according to his father's will) married to the Princess *Catharine*, the widow of his brother, *Arthur;* and, with his Queen, was crowned at *Westminster*, on Midsummer-day, 1509. A. D. 1509. Hen. VIII.

Several Merchants having imported goods into the port of *Exeter*, and refusing payment of the Petty Customs, (or Town Dues) the said goods were seized, as forfeited, until composition was made for the same. 1511. Goods seized for non-payment of town duties

This year war was declared against the *French* King, and proclaimed in this city; and an invasion being intended by *France* the King sent his orders to the *Mayor* to provide thirty soldiers to attend him in the said expedition; these were accordingly levied and completely armed, by the voluntary contributions of the Citizens. 1512. The King demands 30 Soldiers.

*Sir Thomas Dennis, Knight,** a gentleman of an ancient and respectable family, much esteemed for his knowledge in the laws, was chosen *Recorder* of *Exeter*. 1513.

* This gentleman, it is said, lived in the reign of Seven Kings and Queens of this kingdom: he was Domestic Servant to Henry VII.; one of the Privy Council to Henry VIII.; Chancellor to Queen Anne, of Cleves; Custos Rotulorum of the County of Devon; and seven times Sheriff of the said county: once two years together, (contrary to law) for which he was fined £200.

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A. D. 1515. Dominicals refused.

The right of demanding *Dominicals* (in lieu of *Tythes)* by the parish *Priests* of this city being disputed, and several of the inhabitants refusing to pay the same, the cause was tried in the King's Court, in the Guildhall, and judgment given in favor of the *Priests.* It doth not appear what sum was demanded, but the following composition (in lieu of Tythes) was appointed by an Act of Parliament, in the year 1457.

Compositions for offerings.

"*The composition of all offering within the city of London and suburbs of the same.*"

"*First*, that every person, dweller, and inhabitant, in any house and occupieth the same at *Ten shillings* per annum, shall offer to God, and to the church in whose parish such house standeth, one farthing on each of the Feast days hereafter mentioned, viz: on every Sunday in the year, Christmas-day, Circumcision, Epiphany, Purification of our Lady, Ascension of our Lord, Corpus Christi, St. Matthew, St. Simon and St. Jude, All Saints, St. Andrew, Conception of the Blessed Virgin, St. Thomas the Apostle, St. Peter, St. Paul, St. James St. Bartholomew, Assumption and Nativity of our Lady, and Dedication-day, to be kept for all the churches, and also on the Patron's day of each church. And if such inhabited houses be let for *Twenty shillings,* to pay two farthings, or half-penny; if for *Thirty shillings* to pay three farthings; if for *Forty shillings* to pay one penny; if for *Fifty shillings* to pay one penny farthing; and so for every sum, ascending and descending by *Ten shillings,* into what sum soever, shall always offer one farthing after the rate of *Ten shillings,* at the aforesaid Feasts. And he who rents houses in divers parishes shall pay or offer the same for each house, to the church in which parish it stands. Provided that should it happen that two of the said Feasts fall on one day, the offering shall be only for one day. That a house rented at 6*s.* 8*d.* shall offer only four times in the year; on the four principal Feasts of the church of which he is a parishioner; and all above 6*s.* 8*d.* and under *Ten shillings,* to pay one penny farthing once a year. Provided always, that if the said dweller go before the Curate, and there declare upon his faith and truth, that he may not pay his said money according to the ordinance aforesaid, being within *Ten shillings,* the said Curate shall holden him aught or nought, and the dweller thereupon shall be quyte: and if the rent of the house exceeds *Ten shillings,* and does not amount to *Thirty shillings,* and so to any sum between *Ten shillings* and *Thirty shillings,* the inhabitant shall pay to the Curate five farthings for every shilling of the said sum that shall be between Ten and Ten. Where a house is taken together, and afterwards let out into

apartments, for divers people, then the person that took the whole house, and inhabiteth the principal part thereof, shall pay an offering to his parish church for the whole rent, if the said house be inhabited and occupied as dwelling places. But if the person who rents the whole house does not dwell in part thereof, and lets it out again, then he that dwelleth in the principal part thereof shall offer all, and the rest four-pence by the year Also, every warehouse, shop, cellar, wharf, stable, crane, ground, garden, or place, shall pay for every Pound they are let for sixpence offering, to the Curate of the church in which they shall stand, without any other offering; and three-pence for Ten shillings per annum rent, and more or less as they shall be let for more or less than Ten shillings per annum. It was also provided, that all apprentices and servants, and hired men, not charged with such rent and houses, which shall be householder at Easter or about Easter, shall, four times in the year, at the four principal Feasts, offer to God and the church. Also, as for personal Tythes, the parishioners are neither charged or discharged, saving that hereafter no Curate shall vex, trouble, sue, or deny sacraments, or service, for non-payment of the same, but leave them to the piety and conscience of the parishioners. Also, all proceedings and suits hitherto carried on for tythes or offerings, before this day, shall stop, and never be brought into controversy any more; but all such things done before this day shall be remitted and forgiven, by both parties."

A. D. 1515. A great frost.

This year was remarkable for an intense frost, which continued its severity for more than seven weeks: many were frozen to death; others lost their fingers or their toes; and the poor were reduced to the greatest distress.

1517.

An ancient custom had prevailed in this city, for the *Receiver* and *Bailiffs*, on the day of election of a new *Mayor*, to make public breakfasts and dinners, which was attended with great expences; and many by attempting to outvie others in the splendour of their entertainments had greatly injured their fortunes; therefore the *Receiver* for this year, *Richard Duke*, and the *Bailiffs*, taking it into consideration, resolved to discontinue the custom, and refused to make any entertainments; for which they were fined in the sum of *Forty shillings* each: the year following the *Bailiffs* (wisely judging it better to pay *Forty shillings* than spend £20 for a breakfast) also refused to make the customary entertainments; but afterwards many complied.

Receiver, &c. refuse to make public breakfasts, &c. Are fined 40s. each.

1520.

An order of Common Council was made, that all freemen

CHAP. II. should reside within the limits of the city, on pain of disfranchisement.

A. D. 1521. The *Mayor* this year *(John Nosworthy)* was a great benefactor to the city, by reforming many abuses and establishing good order in the courts of justice: he ordered the Attornies of the Provost Court to be sworn to act justly and impartially in the cause of their clients: the records of the city laying scattered, (by which many were lost, or otherwise embezzled) he collected them together; and, for their better security, erected convenient presses in the Council Chamber: he regulated the duties of the city Officers, and saw them duly observed: during a scarcity of corn he caused to be imported a large quantity from different parts, and sold it to the poor at reduced prices: he also regulated the markets, particularly that of corn, ordering that it should be open certain hours only; and for this purpose he erected a bell, which was to be rung at the beginning and close of the markets, and tolled about the middle, thereby to give notice that, the Citizens being supplied, strangers were at liberty to purchase: he was also careful to see the assize of bread and ale well kept, and behaved with the greatest hospitality, leaving an excellent pattern to succeeding magistrates.

The Mayor regulates the courts of justice.

Collects the City Records.

Imports corn in time of scarcity, and regulates the markets.

1524. One *Joan Luter*, a common strumpet, having been frequently admonished concerning her debauched life and conversation, and not reforming the same, the *Mayor* went in person to her house, brought her thence, and committed her to prison, that she might receive due punishment according to her offences: this coming to the knowledge of her cullies and companions, they used all possible means to prevent it; but finding they could not prevail, they attempted to rescue the prisoner; when, to counteract them and to defend the *Mayor*, *William Somaster*, then *Sword-bearer*, attending his master in the High-Street, was obliged to draw his sword, by which he put the assailants to flight: the woman was sent to the House of Correction, and afterwards publicly whipt at the cart's tail.

The Sword-bearer draws his sword in defence of the Mayor.

Several writs of *Ne Molestando* were sent to *Bristol*, to discharge the duty of Town Custom, pretended to be due from the freemen of this city, from the payment of which they are exempted by their charters.

1529. *Henry* tired of his Queen, *Catharine*, who had been his wife eighteen years, and borne him three children, pretended scruples of conscience as to the legality of his marriage, she being his brother's widow when he married her: he sent Ambassadors to *Rome*, desiring a divorce; this being refused he, in revenge, separated himself and his subjects from any

The King breaks from the Papal See.

dependence on the *Pope;* and the next year all applications to, and correspondence with, the *Papal Court* were forbid by an act of parliament, under severe penalties; and the King was declared supreme head of the *English Church*. Notwithstanding this separation from the *Pope*, *Henry* strongly adhered to the principles of the *Romish* faith, and persecuted the Protestants with unremitting severity, many of whom he caused to be executed with the most excruciating tortures; among these was *Thomas Bennet*, a native of *Cambridge*, and Master of Arts in that University. He being an intimate acquaintance of that famous martyr, *Thomas Bilney*, was suspected of heresy (as the protestant religion was then called;) and finding his stay in his own county unsafe he came into *Devonshire*, and taught a school for some time at *Torrington;* but not meeting with any encouragement there, he removed to *Exeter*, and there taught a small school in the *Butchers'-row*, and lived quietly, till at length, no longer able to bear with the superstition of the *Romish* Priests, he fixed up written bills on the doors of the cathedral, in which he declared the *Pope* to be antichrist, and that no adoration was due to Saints; being suspected of this, he was apprehended and brought before the Bishop, when he publicly confessed the writing to be his, and the doctrines therein to be the truth, according to the Holy Scriptures. After several examinations, refusing to recant, he was delivered over to the civil power for execution.

A. D. 1530.

The King is declared head of the English Church.

Thomas Bennet suspected of Heresy.

Comes to Exeter.

Is apprehended.

Refuses to recant.

Sir Thomas Dennis, *Knight*, then Sheriff of *Devon*, ordered a stake to be fixed for that purpose at *Southernhay*, which being in the limits of the city the Chamber would not permit, but ordered the stake to be taken up again. The Sheriff therefore had it removed to *Liverydole*, in the parish of *Heavitree*, where *Bennet* was accordingly burnt; and he bore his sufferings with patience and resignation that greatly affected the spectators.

The Chamber will not suffer his being executed on Southernhay.

Is burnt at Liverydole.

William Strode, *Esq.* of *Newenham*, in the county of *Devon*, was at the same time imprisoned in the Bishop's house, upon suspicion of heresy, where he suffered great hardships. He survived *Mr. Bennet;* but how he was afterwards dealt with we have no account: it is supposed he died in prison.

W. Strode, Esq. imprisoned for Heresy.

This year an act of parliament threw off all dependence on the *Papal See*, and fully ended the power of the *Pope* in *England*.

1535.

The Plague again visited this city, and made great ravages among the inhabitants.

1536.

The King renewed the ancient charter of this city; and by his letters patent, under the great seal of England, constituted

CHAP. II.

Exeter made a county of itself.

it a county of itself, independent of the county of *Devon*, (of which it had hitherto been a part) fixing its limits,* and granting a liberty to the *Mayor* and *Common Council* to elect a *Sheriff*, annually, with all the privileges common to other counties: this charter is dated August 3d, 1536.†

The King suppresses all the Monasteries.

The King not thinking himself secure from the attacks of the See of *Rome*, as the country swarmed with Monks, Friars, and other mendicants, determined on a general suppression of the Monasteries within his dominions: this he soon put into execution; and in this and the following reigns were suppressed 653; also 90 Colleges, 2,374 Chantries and Free Chapels, and 110 Hospitals: the worth of these, before their suppression, was valued at £152,517 18*s.* 10*d.*; but it is computed that the lands and revenues belonging to them would now amount to £30,503,400.

Priory of St. Nicholas

The houses suppressed in this city and neighbourhood were the following: the Priory of *St. Nicholas*, (of which there are still some remains;) this was valued at £147 12*s.* per annum, according to *Dugdale;* but *Mr. Speed* says £154 12*s.*

Priory of St. John, Baptist.

The Priory of *St. John, Baptist* (which *Speed* says was for *Franciscan Friars; Dugdale*, that it was an Hospital for five Priests, nine Boys, and twelve Poor People;) this, according to *Speed*, was valued at £102 12*s.* and the Hospital at £147 12*s.*‡

Priory of Polsloe.

The Priory of *Polsloe*, half-a-mile from this city, founded by *Bishop Brewer*, (who gave it the Manor of *Polsloe)* for *Benedictine Nuns:* it was dedicated to *St. Catharine*, and valued at £72 3*s.* 2*d.* according to *Risdon;* and by *Speed* at £170 2*s.* 3*d.*

Priory of St. James.

The Priory of *St. James*, (now called the Old Abbey) on the banks of the river, near *Exeter*, founded by *Baldwin*, Earl of *Devon*, for *Cluniac Monks*, valued at £532 12*s.* 9*d.* per annum.

Priory of Cowick.

The Priory of *Cowick*, near *Exeter*, not valued.

The Priory of *Franciscan*, or *Grey Friars*, without the *South-gate:* the Priory of *Preaching Friars*, called the *Black Friars*, (a Cell to the Abbey of *Tavistock,)* and now Bedford

* As this charter is mostly recapitulated in that granted by *Charles* I. it is unnecessary to insert it here, therefore refer to that period.

† It is remarkable that most of the stones erected to determine the limits of the city are either grave stones or the remains of religious houses.

‡ Of this Hospital more will be said in its proper place; also a particular account of the remains of the religious houses in the descriptive part.

Circus; and a Priory of *Cistercians*, (a Cell to the Abbey of *Buckland*) situated in *South-gate-Street*, now the *Bear Inn*: with many chapels and small chantries, were surrendered up and fell in this general dissolution. CHAP. II.

The *Monks*, thus expelled from their comfortable habitations, excited the people to insurrections, particularly in *Yorkshire*; on which the King sent his commission to *Henry Courtenay*, Marquis of *Exeter*, to assemble the forces of the county of *Devon*, with an order to the *Mayor* of *Exeter* to assist him with 200 men, well armed: these were speedily raised and mustered at *Bradninch*, (with the rest of the Marquis's men) whence they marched, under his command, to *Doncaster*, where the rebels laid down their arms, and they dispersing themselves, the Marquis returned with his forces. A. D. 1537. The King demands 200 men to be sent against the Yorkshire rebels.

John Cove, who had attended the Marquis in this expedition, met with a remarkable circumstance on the night of his return home: part of his house, which was situated near the river, (at that time swelled by excessive rains) fell down, and the servants, who slept in the upper part, were drowned; but he and his wife were carried away, bed and all, by the current; when, desiring his wife not to stir, he, by exerting his arms and legs, kept on the western bank, out of the stream's current, and providentially got upon a hillock, where the water was shallow; and thence he and his wife recovered the shore in safety. A great preservation from drowning.

The woollen manufactory greatly increasing in this city, the *Mayor* considered it necessary to erect a Market for the sale of Wool, Yarn, and Kersies; this he proposed, but was strongly opposed by some of the Citizens, and the Inhabitants of *Crediton*, where the only Market for these commodities was held, in the county of *Devon*; notwithstanding this the *Mayor* prevailed, and a Market was accordingly established, to the great advantage of the Citizens.* 1538. Market for Wool, &c. erected.

John Bonnefant, one of the Attornies of the Provost Court, in *Exeter*, was found guilty of high treason, and condemned to be drawn on a hurdle to the place of execution, and there to be hanged and quartered; which sentence was accordingly executed on him the 10th of August, this year, on *Southernhay*. John Bonnefant executed on Southernhay.

The high waters having greatly damaged the foundation of *Exe Bridge*, one of the middle arches fell down; which was immediately repaired by order of the Bridge Warden: the stones made use of on this occasion were those of the church of the late dissolved Priory of *St. Nicholas*, (which had been 1539. Part of Exe Bridge falls down.

* This market was erected over the old shambles, in South-gate-Street, and was of late taken down to widen the passage, and a conduit built on part of the site.

CHAP. II. previously purchased by the *Chamber;)* and were not only applied to this purpose, but also to the repair of the city walls.

An Act granted for making the river navigable to the city.

The trade of *Exeter* having most considerably increased, by the introduction of the woollen manufactory, the Citizens and Merchants found a great inconvenience in bringing their heavy goods, by land, from *Topsham;* they therefore applied to government for a relief; and an Act was passed empowering the Chamber to remove the weirs and other obstructions in the ancient course of the river; but, from a survey made, it was found wholly impracticable, as the materials were so strongly united together, by length of time, as to render all proceedings ineffectual. Another Act was therefore procured to enable the city to cut a canal through the marshes, and to erect sluices and draw-bridges thereon; and, to defray the expences of the work, to collect certain duties on all goods and merchandises that should be brought up to the city through the said canal. The work was carried on with great assiduity, by voluntary contributions; the parishes granting part of their superfluous church plate, amounting to upwards of 900 ounces, (part of which being gilt increased its value;) the neighbouring clergy and gentry also contributed largely, so that in the course of a few years barges and boats of great size came easily up and discharged their cargoes, at a spacious quay erected by the Chamber.

Church Plate granted towards the work.

1544.

1545. Part of *Cowley Bridge* fell down, and was repaired by the city. The city walls being decayed, and the ditches almost filled up, the walls were repaired and the ditches cleansed at the free expence of the Citizens.

1547. *Henry* died on the 28th January, 1547, and was succeeded by his only son, *Edward,* then but nine years of age.

MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of Henry VIII.

1509.
John Buckenham.
John Bradmore.
William Somaster.
John Coleshill.
William Hoig.

1510.
Thomas Andrew.
John Orenge.
John Moore.
John Amory.
William Periam.

1511.
Wm. Wilsford, Ob.
William Crudge.
Robert Browne.
Robert Kensey.
John Boughay.
Henry Hamlyn.
Richard Russel.

1512.
Richard Symons.
John Moore.
John Britnall.
William Hurst.

1513.
Richard Hewett.
John Winter.
John Bodley.
William Ratcliff.
John Robins.

1514.
John Moore.
Thomas Hunt.
William Forrest.

Robert Buller.
John Williams.

1515.
William Crudge.
Jeffery Lewis.
John Bridgman.
Gilbert Kirk.
Thomas Fowler.

1516.
John Buckenham.
John Nosworthy.
John Woolcot.
Richard Chubb.
Robert Trow.

1517.
Thomas Hunt.
Richard Duke.
Nic. Staplehill, Ob.
John Richards, Ob.
Matthew Long.
Hugh Page.
William Cotton.

1518.
William Crudge.
Reynold Russel.
John Maris.
Nigel Collin.
John Mitchell.

1519.
Jeffery Lewis.
William Shapton.
Richard Martin.
John Awells.
Richard Andrew.

1520.
John Broadmere.
Richard Russel.
Richard Verney.
John Harris.
John Blackaller.

1521.
John Nosworthy.
William Bennet.
Chris. Lambert.
Thomas Hunt.
John Buller.

1522.
Richard Duke.
William Hurst.
Robert Hooker.
John Way.
Robert Smith.

1523.
John Symons, Ob.
Thomas Hunt.
John Britnall.
Richard Faux.
Roger Luxton.
John Holmer.

1524.
William Hurst.
Henry Hamlyn.
William Buckenham.
John Woolcott.
William Davy.

1525.
William Bennet.
Robert Buller.
John Winter.
William Holmer.
John Tuckfield.

1526.
Henry Hamlyn.
Robert Hooker.
Nicholas Lymett.
John Trubody.
William Hussey.

1527.
John Britnall.
William Blackaller.
John Cross.
John Seller.
John Duck.

1528.
Robert Buller.
Gilbert Kirk.
John Maynard.
William Tothill.
Robert Whitread.

1529.
Robert Hooker.
William Periam.
Thomas Spurway.
Robert Turner.
Robert Tooker.

1530.
John Blackaller.
Richard Martin.
Thomas Prestwood.
Richard Mawditt.
Stephen Larimore.

1531.
Gilbert Kirk.
Hugh Page.
Thomas Bonnefant.
William Chanon.
Edward Sheer.

1532.
William Periam.
Thomas Hoig.
John Tuckfield.
Roger Blackall.
William Takle.

1533.
Richard Martin.
John Thomas.
Humphrey Andrew.
Richard Ratcliff.
William Burges.

1534.
John Britnall.
Thomas Hunt.
Richard Colwell.
John Rixley.
John Shelder.

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1535.
William Hurst.
Thomas Spurway.
Bennet Chubb.
John Lane.
Nicholas Walrond.

1536.
John Blackaller.
John Buller.
William Burgoyne.
Peter Stretch.
John Alleyne.

1537.
Thomas Hunt.
William Buckenham.
William Smith.
John Peter.
William Berryman.

1538.
Henry Hamlyn.
Robert Tooker.
Nicholas Reeve.
John Paramore.
J. Mountstephen.

1539.
Gilbert Kirk.
Thomas Prestwood.
Griffith Ameredith.
Morris Levermore.
William Lott.

1540.
Thomas Spurway.
John Midwinter.
Richard Sweet.
Robert Cotton.
John Thomas.

1541.
William Buckenham.
John Way.
John Peryam.
John Macy.
Robert Sweet.

1542.
John Buller.
John Woolcott.
John Drake.
Christopher Potter.
Richard Limbear.

1543.
Robert Tooker.
John Holmer.
John Hurst.
William Parsons.
William Downman.

1544.
Thomas Prestwood.
John Maynard.
John Webb.
William Halse.
Hugh Pope.

1545.
William Hurst.
Nicholas Lymett.
Robert Midwinter.
Henry Booth.
John Berry.

1546.
John Britnall.
John Tuckfield.
John Stowell.
Edward Bridgman.
Thomas Grigg.

1547.
John Midwinter.
John Drake.
Thomas Skidmore.
John Bodley.
John Blackall.

Earls of Devon, from the Norman Conquest to the Reformation.

Baldwin de Brioniis, (or *de Molis)* great grandson to *Richard* I. Duke of *Normandy,* having married *Albreda,* niece to *William* the *Conqueror,* was by that King made hereditary Viscount of *Devon:* he likewise granted to him the Castle of *Exeter* for his residence. Baldwin de Brioniis.

Baldwin was succeeded by his son, *Richard,* (to whom the Conqueror granted the Barony of *Okehampton)* but he dying without issue, *Henry* I. made Richard de Brioniis.

Richard de Rivanis (or *Rivers)* Baron of *Tiverton* and *Plympton,* and then Earl of *Devon;* granting him the third penny of all the revenues of the county, which did not then exceed thirty marks. He was also made Lord of the *Isle of Wight* by the same King. His heir and successor was Richard de Rivers.

Baldwin de Rivers, who founded the Monasteries of *Brummore,* in *Wiltshire; Quarrera,* in the *Isle of Wight;* and *Lira,* in *Normandy.* He sided with the Empress *Maud* against King *Stephen,* who took from him the Castle of *Exeter,* and the *Isle of Wight,* seized on all his possessions, and forced him to depart out of the kingdom: but being restored by *Henry* II. was succeeded by his eldest son, Baldwin de Rivers.

Richard de Rivers, who gave lands to the Abbey of *Quarrera,* to pray for the souls of his father and mother; and also confirmed his father's gifts to the Abbey of *Twineham.* His successor was Richard de Rivers.

Baldwin, his eldest son, who behaving himself valiantly in the wars against the *Welch,* King *Henry* II. granted him, as a reward, the honour of *Charteaureaux.* He married the heiress of *Ralph de Dolis,* but having no issue was succeeded by his brother, Baldwin de Rivers 2d.

Richard de Rivers, who gave lands to the Abbey of *Brower,* to pray for the souls of his father and mother. He married *Margaret,* one of the co-heiresses of *John, Lord Bisset;* but, having no issue, was succeeded in the honours and estate by his uncle, Richard de Rivers 2d.

William de Rivers, (surnamed *de Vernon)* who had issue by his wife, *Mabil,* daughter of the Earl of *Mallent—Baldwin,* his son and heir, who, dying before his father, left issue by his wife, *Margaret,* daughter of *Warren Fitzgerald,* William de Rivers. Baldwin de Rivers 3d.

CHAP. II.

Baldwin de Rivers 4th.

Baldwin de Rivers, who succeeded his grandfather, and married *Amisia*, daughter of *Gilbert de Clare*, Earl of *Gloucester*. This *Baldwin*, dying young, was succeeded by his son *Baldwin*, a child; who, being placed under the care of *Peter de Savoy*, (at the request of Queen *Eleanor*) married *Avice*, his daughter, and had issue, a son, who dying in his infancy, the honours and estate descended to his sister, *Isabella*. She was married to

Isabella de Fortibus.

William de Fortibus, Earl of *Albermarle*, by whom she had only a daughter, named *Aveline*, who dying in her infancy, the honour came to

Hugh de Courtenay, first Earl of that family.

Hugh de Courtenay, grandson of *Robert de Courtenay*, Baron of *Okehampton*, who having married *Mary*, the daughter of *William de Vernon*, late Earl of *Devon*, was, by letters patent, of King *Edward* III. created Earl of *Devonshire*, as next heir, by descent, to the said *Isabella*. This *Hugh de Courtenay* was succeeded by his son,

Hugh de Courtenay 2d.

Hugh de Courtenay, who married *Margaret*, daughter of *Humphrey de Bohun*, Earl of *Hereford* and *Essex*, by whom he had several children. *Hugh*, the eldest son, died unmarried; *Edward*, the second son, married *Emmeline*, daughter of *Sir John Dauncy*, *Knight;* by her he had two sons, *Edward* and *Hugh*. *Edward*, son of *Hugh de Courtenay*, dying before his father, the honour descended to his son,

Edward Courtenay.

Edward, who succeeded his grandfather in the Earldom of *Devon*. This Earl *Edward* was a person of great valour and abilities, and was made, by King *Richard* II. *Earl Marshall* of *England*, and *Admiral* of his fleet.

Hugh de Courtenay 3d.

Hugh, his eldest son, succeeded in his father's honours and the command of the fleet, on the 16th of June, in the 10th year of the reign of *Henry* V.; he died, leaving

Thomas de Courtenay.

Thomas de Courtenay, his son and heir. He favoured the pretensions of *Richard*, Duke of *York*, to the crown, and entered into his conspiracy against *Henry* VI. but dying before any open attempts were made, left his son,

Thomas de Courtenay 2d.

Thomas de Courtenay, his heir. He (contrary to his father's principles) adhered to the house of *Lancaster*, and was rewarded with the Manor and Borough of *Milburton* and *Merswade;* lands forfeited by *Richard*, Duke of *York:* but these he soon lost again, by the success of *Edward*, Duke of *York*, who obtained the crown from *Henry* VI.: he lived only one month after, and left his honours to

Thomas de Courtenay 3d.

Thomas, his son, who having been with his father, in the battle of *Towton-field*, against King *Edward* IV. was attainted by Parliament, but again taking arms in the same cause, was slain at the battle of *Tewkesbury* (not beheaded at *York*, as *Cambden* relates.) His brother, *Henry*, obtained all the lands of which *Thomas*, the late Earl, died seized of, from *Edward* IV.;

but not the Earldom: for *Humphrey, Lord Stafford,* of *Southwick,* was created, by that King, Earl of *Devon.* He, revolting from his benefactor, was taken prisoner and beheaded, at *Bridgewater,* without any legal trial; having enjoyed his honours about three months only.

Humphrey Lord Stafford made Earl of Devon.

The title of Earl of *Devon* remained dormant till the accession of *Henry* VII. who, sensible of the loyalty of the *Courtenay* family to the *Lancasterian* line, restored

Edward Courtenay, of *Haccomb,* (grandson of *Hugh Courtenay,* younger brother to Earl *Edward)* to the honour and estates of his ancestors. This Earl and his son, *William,* violently opposed *Perkin Warbeck,* and forced him to raise the siege of *Exeter.* His successor was *William,* before mentioned, who was imprisoned in the Tower through the jealousy of King *Henry* VII. but released by *Henry* VIII.; and dying soon after, the Earldom was restored to *Henry,* his son and successor; whom *Henry* VIII. greatly esteemed for his near alliance to his mother, being her sister's son. He also created him Marquis of *Exeter;* but being afterwards accused of a treasonable correspondence with *Cardinal Pole,* he was attainted and beheaded, and his son *Edward* imprisoned in the Tower of *London,* where he continued till the accession of Queen *Mary.*

Edward Courtenay 2d.

Henry Courtenay.

Dukes of Exeter, to the Reformation.

Exeter, having highly deserved of Majesty for its loyalty, has been greatly distinguished for giving the title of Duke, before any other, to

John Holland, Earl of *Huntingdon,* who being brother (by the mother's side) to King *Richard* II. was by him made Duke of *Exeter;* but *Richard* being deposed by *Henry* IV. the Duke of *Exeter,* joining in a conspiracy to restore him, was deprived of his honour and life together; the honour then lay dormant till the reign of King *Henry* V. who, in the fourth year of his reign, created

John Holland made Duke of Exeter.

Beheaded.

Thomas Beaufort (then Earl of *Dorset)* Duke of *Exeter.* He was descended from the house of *Lancaster,* being the youngest son of *John of Gaunt,* by the Lady *Katharine Swinford;* and was a Prince as eminent for his wisdom and courage as for high birth and station. He died without issue, and

Thomas Beaufort.

John Holland (son of the before mentioned *John Holland)* was restored to his father's honour and estate by King *Henry* VI. He was succeeded by

John Holland 2d.

CHAP. II.

Henry Holland.

Henry Holland, his son, who, during the prevalence of the house of *Lancaster*, flourished in great honour; but when the family of *York* gained possession of the crown, he was attainted and deprived of all his estates and honours; and, taking refuge in the *Netherlands*, was reduced to such poverty, (notwithstanding he married the sister of King *Edward* IV.) that *Philip de Commines* (the *French* historian) testifies that he saw him begging his bread, running with bare legs and feet after the Duke of *Burgundy's* coach. He returned again into *England*, and was a principal commander at the battle of *Barnet;* whence (the *Lancasterians* being totally defeated) he made his escape; and, notwithstanding the most diligent search, he was not discovered or seen till his body was found cast on shore on the coast of *Kent*. Leaving no issue, the title lay dormant until the reign of *Henry* VIII. who created *Henry Courtenay* (son of *Lady Katharine*, daughter to *Edward* IV.) Marquis of *Exeter;* who, being accused of high treason, was beheaded; and the title again lay dormant till the reign of *James* I.

Henry Courtenay created Marquis of Exeter.

End of the Second Chapter.

CHAPTER III.

From the Death of King Henry VIII. to the Accession of King Charles II.

CHAP. III.
Edward VI. A. D. 1547.

EDWARD being only nine years old at his accession to the throne, the power of government was lodged, according to King *Henry's* last will, in the hands of twelve Councillors of State and sixteen Regents; and these appointed *Edward*, Duke of *Somerset*, (the King's maternal uncle) to be Protector and Governor of the King's person. He, thus intrusted with the education of the infant King, instilled in his breast a dislike to the errors and superstitions of the church of *Rome;* and greatly forwarded the *Reformation*. By an Act of Parliament all private masses were abolished, all images were removed from churches, the cup was restored to the laity, and the common prayer and liturgy were corrected: thus the *Reformation* and the *King's supremacy* were fully established.

Duke of Somerset made Protector.

Reformation forwarded.

Confirmed by parliament.

The *Monks* and *Massing Priests*, being thus driven from their Cells, incited the people to a resistance against this innovation (as they termed it) of their holy religion; accordingly insurrections were fomented in many parts of the kingdom, and particularly in *Devonshire*.

The Monks incite a rebellion.

1549.

At *Sampford Courtenay*, *Devon*, a most dangerous rebellion broke out. On Whitsunday, the 9th of June, 1549, the day appointed by Act of Parliament for abolishing the *Popish Mass* and *Ritual*, and for reading the new established *Liturgy* in the English tongue, a great murmuring arose, during the time of Divine service, among the parishioners of *Sampford Courtenay*, who, assembling the next day, compelled their parish Priest to re-assume his Popish vestments, and to read the *Mass* as formerly. This was soon spread through the neighbouring parishes, the inhabitants of which, assembling together in great numbers, compelled their pastors to follow the example of the Priest of *Sampford Courtenay*. The Justices in the neighbourhood, viz: *Sir Hugh Pollard*, *Knight*, *Anthony Harvy*, *Alexander Wood*, and *Park Slader*, *Esquires*, informed of these commotions, immediately repaired to *Sampford*, and endeavoured to quiet the minds of the populace; but finding, after repeated conferences, that they still persisted in

Inhabitants of Sampford Courtenay refuse to admit the new liturgy.

Their example followed by others.

The Justices try to quell the riot, but without effect.

CHAP. III.

their obstinacy, and dreading the use of force, they left the insurgents to their own wills.

A gentleman named Hellions murdered by the rioters.

While this ferment was increasing, a gentleman named *William Hellions*, (a *Fleming* by birth) who had for some years resided near *Sampford*, and was respected for his amiable character, endeavoured by fair speeches to persuade the people of *Sampford* and those who had joined them to return to their habitations; and told them the consequences of persisting in rebellion against the laws of their King and Country: this so exasperated them, that one *Githbridge* struck him with his bill on the neck, and the blow being followed by several others he was soon dispatched, and his body cut into several pieces.

Sir Peter and Sir Gawen Carew sent into Devonshire

The Protector and Council dispatched *Sir Peter Carew*, with his brother, *Sir Gawen Carew*, into *Devonshire*, to examine into the cause of these commotions, and to endeavour to appease the people. They were met in *Exeter* by the principal gentlemen of the county, and proceeded to *Crediton*, where the main body of the rebels had assembled, and fortified the town with ramparts, particularly the road which led to *Exeter*. At the town's end were two barns which commanded the road: these were strengthened with a barrier across, which effectually blocked up any entrance into the town.

Rebels fortify Crediton.

Skirmish at Crediton, and the barns burnt

The gentlemen, thus prevented from entering, endeavoured to persuade the insurgents to submit to the laws, and retire to their respective homes; but finding all persuasions useless, they attempted to force an entrance, when a volley of shots and arrows compelled them to retreat. In this dilemma a servant of *Sir Hugh Pollard* set the barns on fire, which the rebels perceiving fled immediately out of the town, leaving their opponents an easy entrance.

The burning of the barns being spread over the country, with great exaggeration, by designing people, who reported that the intention was no less than to burn all their houses; the exasperation was so great that the common people flocked from all quarters to the assistance of the rebels, while others were busily employed in fortifying their towns and villages, and bidding defiance to all government and laws.

The people much exasperated.

Rebels assemble at St. Mary Clist.

At *St. Mary Clist*, about two miles from *Exeter*, a great number assembled themselves, chiefly through the instigation of an old woman, who being overtaken on the road, going to the parish church, with her beads in her hand, by a gentleman named *Walter Raleigh*,* was admonished by him to forsake the errors and blind superstition of the church of *Rome*, and to

* The father of the great *Sir Walter Raleigh*.

submit to the new laws: this so aggravated the old bigot, that she hastened to the town and so misrepresented the matter as to cause the people assembled there to vow revenge on the gentleman; and therefore pursuing him, overtook him before he reached *Exeter* and carried him back to the town; where, and in the tower of *St. Sidwell's* church, they kept him closely confined (often threatening his life) during the whole time of these commotions.

Mr. Walter Raleigh made prisoner by the rebels.

Information being received at *Exeter* of these proceedings at *Clist*, *Sir Peter* and *Sir Gawen Carew*, *Sir Hugh Pollard*, *Sir Thomas Dennis*, and others, accompanied by their servants and followers, rode thither; but the bridge leading to the town being barricadoed, by large trees laid across, and defended by a piece of cannon which the rebels had procured from *Exmouth*, *Sir Peter Carew* alighted from his horse and endeavoured to bring the opponents to a conference: this they refused, and the gunner (*John Hamon*, a smith by trade, and a foreigner) charged the cannon and levelled it at *Sir Peter*, who would have been shot but for the prevention of a servant to *Sergeant Prideaux*. The gentlemen sent a messenger desiring a conference, which was at length agreed to; and *Sir Thomas Dennis*, *Sir Hugh Pollard*, and *Thomas Yarde*, *Esq.* were admitted into the town; but after a considerable time, and not being able to prevail on the rebels to lay down their arms, they were suffered to depart; and thus, without effecting any thing, they returned to *Exeter*, where they held a consultation with the *Mayor*, who informed them that the city was unprovided with victuals to satisfy so many people, and therefore advised them to shift for themselves: consequently they left the city (escaping through by-ways) to withstand a long siege, accompanied with the horrors of intestine commotions and famine.*

Sir Thomas Dennis, &c. escape through by-ways.

Sir Peter Carew escaped to *George Hinton*, in *Somersetshire*, where he was met by *Lord Russel*, Lord Lieutenant of the county of *Devon*, who had been sent from *London* to endeavour to quell the disturbances, but without men or arms, as government were busily employed in the war with *Scotland*, and therefore the principal forces were in the north. *Sir Peter Carew* and his followers being thus obliged to remain inactive, the rebels were strongly encouraged to proceed: they immediately invested *Exeter*, blocking up the highways, and thereby

Rebels invest Exeter.

* The complexion of the times was now greatly altered, when those powerful Barons who, not a century ago, defied their monarchs at the head of powerful armies, could not now oppose a handful of half armed and undisciplined peasants.

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preventing any intercourse between the Citizens and the neighbouring country. The rebels now began to assume some sort of discipline, regulating themselves into companies, and choosing Commanders, the principal of whom were *Underhill*, a Tailor, *Maunder*, a Shoemaker, *Seager*, a Labourer, and *Asheridge*, a hawker of fish: but the news of the dispersion of *Sir Peter Carew* and the blockade of *Exeter* being quickly spread about, others of better account were induced to join them, particularly *Sir Thomas Pomeroy*, *Knight*,* *John Berry*, *Esq.* *Mr. Coffin*, a gentleman of fortune, *Humphrey Arundel*, *Esq.* Governor of *St. Michael's Mount*, in *Cornwall*, —— *Winneslade*, *Esq.* with several others of note, by whose example the rebels were increased in number and spirits: they summoned the Citizens to an immediate surrender, which being refused, they commenced a close siege, and assaulted the city in different parts at once, attempting to scale the walls, but were repulsed by the Citizens, with a great loss of their men.

Principal Commanders of the rebels.

Joined by many gentlemen of estate.

Rebels attempt to scale the walls.

The Magistrates and loyal Citizens were determined not to submit: they prepared every necessary means of defence, and the rebels finding themselves strongly repulsed in their attempts on the walls, proceeded to burn the gates, in which they succeeded; but the Citizens, by making intrenchments within, (in the form of crescents) and firing their port pieces, made great slaughter among the assailants, and prevented their entrance. The rebels then endeavoured to overthrow the walls, by mining, but the Citizens, apprized of their intentions, made countermines, into which they let a great quantity of water, which (assisted by a violent and sudden shower of rain at that time) so wetted their powder that it had no effect.

They burn the gates.

Endeavour to blow up the walls, without effect.

The rebels finding themselves thus foiled in all their attempts, and knowing the city had but a small quantity of provisions, made no doubt of starving it into compliance; and accordingly they so closely blocked up all the avenues that nothing could be conveyed into or out of the city: this in a short time caused such a scarcity that many of the inhabitants began to murmur against the Magistrates, in which they were backed by those disaffected Citizens who wished success to the rebels; but the prudence of the Magistrates kept the major part of the Citizens in spirits and hope of relief: many associated themselves together and made several successful sallies, in which they obtained prizes of live cattle, and other provisions, which was

Attempt to starve the Citizens.

An Association formed and frequent sallies made.

* *Sir Thomas Pomeroy*, joining in this desperate rebellion, was the ruin of himself and family, which before this was esteemed one of the first in the county of *Devon*, both for antiquity and opulence.

a great relief, as the besieged were reduced to the utmost distress, even to the eating the flesh of their horses, and to substitute bran for bread. This coarse fare, and that but scanty, increased the dissensions, which were abetted by some ill-designing men, and occasioned several insurrections against the Magistrates; particularly at one time, in *South-gate-street*, (but two days before their deliverance) where the *Papists* assembled together in arms, and attempted to get possession of the gate, but were timely prevented by the vigilance of the guard, and the ringleaders were sent to prison. They had likewise endeavoured to seduce the soldiers in garrison at the castle; this was fortunately discovered, and a guard of Citizens placed there to prevent any further designs.

Citizens reduced to the greatest distress.

Dissensions among the Citizens

During this accumulated distress the Citizens continued stedfast in their allegiance, and daily expected to be relieved by *Lord Russell*, who had removed from *George Hinton*, to *Mohuns Ottery*, and from thence to *Honiton:* he had got there a small supply of men, but being in want of money, he procured assistance through the interest of three Merchants of *Exeter*, who were at that time with him: these were *Mr. Thomas Prestwood*, *Mr. John Bodlie*, and *Mr. John Periam:* thus furnished he set out towards *Exeter*, desirous of relieving the Citizens, of whose distress and inability to hold out much longer he had been informed.

Lord Russel in want of men and money. Supplied by three Merchants of Exeter.

The rebels gaining intelligence of his march towards them, and of the small force he had with him, set out to meet him (leaving a sufficient number to continue the siege;) the parties met at *Fenniton Bridge*, where a sharp conflict ensued, when the rebels were worsted, and having lost about 300 men were obliged to retreat.

Skirmish at Fenniton Bridge. Rebels worsted.

Lord Russel having had a specimen of the desperate valour of the rebels, and not thinking his forces sufficient to stand a general engagement, he sent a messenger to assure the Citizens of a speedy relief; and returned back to *Honiton*, where he was soon joined by *Lord Grey*, of *Wilton*, with a body of horsemen, and *Colonel Spinola*, an *Italian*, at the head of 300 harquebusiers: thus reinforced he once more set forward to the relief of the Citizens, on the 3d of August. His forces, consisting of more than 1000 men, were marched out of the common road, across the downs, to a windmill on *Woodbury-hill*, where they encamped for the night.

Lord Russel returns to Honiton. Is reinforced.

The rebels at *Clist* having intelligence of his lordship's approach, set out early the next morning and attacked his camp with great resolution: and, though often repulsed, returned to the attack with the most desperate valour, till the

The rebels attack the King's army at Woodbury-hill.

CHAP. III. greatest part of them being slain, the remainder retreated to *Bishop's Clist*, and fortified all the avenues to it; sending an account of their defeat to their confederates. *Lord Russel* then proceeded for *Clist town*, dividing his small army into three divisions, in order to attack at one time the three different avenues, which were strongly barricadoed and entrenched.

The rebels defeated. The King's army attack Bishop's Clist.

Sir William Francis, a gentleman of *Somersetshire*, who commanded one of the divisions, after some contest drove the rebels from their intrenchments, and the whole of the King's army were marching into the town, when an alarm being spread that a large body of rebels were advancing in their rear in order to cut off their retreat, a sudden panic prevailed and they withdrew in great confusion, leaving behind their artillery and waggons, which contained their ammunition and other stores; these fell into the hands of the rebels, who exultingly conveyed them into the town.

A false rumour prevails among the King's troops. They lose their artillery and stores.

This disaster to the King's troops was occasioned by a stratagem of *Sir Thomas Pomeroy*, who having secreted himself (while the army was passing) in a furze brake, with only a trumpeter and a drummer, ordering them (as he perceived the King's troops entering the town) to sound and beat a march: which being heard by the waggon drivers they immediately fled, and reported that a large body of the rebels were attacking their rear: and this, spreading through the army, caused the hasty retreat; nor did the panic cease till they had regained the top of the hill, from which, as it commanded the surrounding country, they saw no enemy near. Ashamed of their conduct, they were prevailed on by their commanders to return to the attack. The rebels, elated by their late success, defended themselves with great resolution; and being in possession of the banks, which overhung the deep roads, had greatly the advantage of situation over the King's troops, many of whom were slain, particularly *Sir William Francis*, who commanded the van. The King's army at length prevailing, forced an entrance into the town; but many of their men being slain by shots from the houses, they set fire to them as they proceeded; and such of the rebels who could not escape, were burnt in them; while others, who found themselves closely pressed, endeavoured to escape across a river, but the tide being very high at that time, many were drowned in the attempt: the loss in killed, burnt, and drowned, was calculated at near 1000, exclusive of a great number taken prisoners.

Sir Thomas Pomeroy's stratagem the cause of the retreat.

The King's army return to the attack.

SirWilliam Francis slain.

The rebels defeated & the town burnt.

The King's party having thus got possession of the town, attempted to pass the river, over the bridge; but were put to

a stand, by the bridge being barricadoed very strongly by great trees laid athwart, and a large cannon placed on it, by which stood a gunner with a lighted match. At this instant *Mr. John Yard* (who lived in the neighbourhood) crossed a ford above the bridge, with a few soldiers, and one of his company came unawares behind the gunner and killed him on the spot. The trees were then removed, and the whole army passed over and encamped on *Clist Heath;* when a fresh rumour being spread, that another large body of rebels were marching towards them from *Woodbury*, an order was given to put the whole of the prisoners to the sword, which was immediately put into execution.*

The King's army encamp on ClistHeath.

All the prisoners put to the sword.

The rebels advised of the defeat of their comrades at *Clist*, collected themselves together and marched the same night to *Clist Heath*, (determined to try the issue of a general engagement) and pitched their camp opposite to the King's army, in a place difficult of access, having lofty hedges in their front, and which they further strengthened by deep ditches and high banks:† on these they planted their cannon, which they discharged on the King's troops with very great effect. *Lord Russel* seeing the disadvantage of attacking them in this situation, ordered a passage to be opened through the hedges, and over the inclosures, which led to their rear, when a bloody battle commenced, and was maintained with great obstinacy by the rebels, who disputed every inch of ground; but after a terrible slaughter they were totally defeated, and fled in every direction, leaving all their cannon and stores to the victors. After the battle the army marched to *Topsham*, carrying with them, on a horse litter, the body of *Sir William Francis*, which was interred the next day in the body of *St. Peter's Cathedral*, with all military honours. The rebels who were left to continue the siege of *Exeter* shifted for themselves by a speedy flight; and the gentlemen who had fallen into their hands, and been kept prisoners in the churches, being thus liberated, repaired to the city walls and informed the sentinels of the happy success of the King's army, which promised a speedy relief.

The whole body of rebels march to Clist Heath.

A bloody battle, in which the rebels are totally defeated.

The siege of Exeter raised.

Early on the next morning (the 6th of August) *Lord Russel* marched for *Exeter*, where he arrived about eight o'clock, and encamped his army in *St. John's Fields.*‡ Well knowing the

Lord Russel comes to Exeter.

* The great disproportion in the number of the King's troops and that of the rebels pleads some justification for this act of inhumanity; and it appears that *Lord Russel* acted only from one of the first principles of human nature, self preservation.

† Great part of these intrenchments still remain on *Clist Heath.*

‡ Now termed the *Barnfield*, with the adjoining fields between *Southernhay* and the ditch.

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The soldiers bring in plenty of provisions.

distress that reigned within the walls, he sent parties to scour the country and collect provisions: these orders were so well executed, that great supplies were soon procured for the comfort of the half famished Citizens; though many, by eating immoderately, after so long a fasting, died suddenly.

The 6th of August annually kept.

Thus, after a long and painful siege, which continued from the 2d of July to the 6th of August, a happy termination was put to their sufferings; and the Magistrates, in gratitude to the Almighty, appointed the 6th of August to be annually kept as a day of thanksgiving; and this is continued to the present time.*

1000 Welchmen join the King's army.

The next day *Lord Russel* being reinforced by 1000 *Welchmen*, under the command of *Sir William Herbert*, detached several bodies of troops in pursuit of the rebels, who still kept together in parties; and at *Sampford Courtenay*, in particular, great numbers of *Devonshire* and *Cornish* men were again assembled; who, not regarding their late defeats, were determined to try the issue of another battle. Information of this being brought to *Lord Russel*, he ordered his whole army to *Sampford;* and finding the rebels deaf to all persuasions he ordered a general attack, which was began by *Sir William Herbert* (at his own request) at the head of the *Welchmen*. The rebels made a stout defence, and killed many of the assailants, particularly *Mr. Ap-Owen*, a young gentleman much regretted: his body was conveyed to *Exeter* and buried in the cathedral, with military honours. The town was at length forced, and the rebels obstinately refusing quarter most of them were put to the sword.

The rebels again assemble at Sampford Courtenay.

Mr. Ap Owen slain.

The greatest part of the rebels slain.

Near 4000 rebels slain.

In this and their former defeats it is estimated that near 4000 of the rebels were slain, and a great number taken prisoners, among whom were their principal commanders.

The country spoiled.

Lord Russel, on his return to *Exeter*, finding the insurgents were still persisting in their evil intentions, gave orders for spoiling the country; and parties of soldiers being sent out for that purpose, they executed their orders with the greatest cruelty, burning the houses, seizing and destroying the property of the poor defenceless inhabitants, sparing neither rebel nor royalist, neither friend nor foe, so that the country for many miles exhibited a scene of desolation, and did not recover its former state for many years.

* The Mayor, Chamber, and Corporated Trades, walk annually in procession on this day to the Cathedral, where a sermon is preached on the occasion by one of the Mayor's Chaplains; and the Cathedral bells are also rung.

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Lord Russel proceeded into *Cornwall;* and after taking severe vengeance on the principal ringleaders who fell into his hands, by executing martial law on them, he returned back to *Exeter*, when a Commission was appointed for trying the prisoners whom they had left in custody. The principal commanders, *Humphrey Arundel, Winneslade, Berry, Coffin,* and *Holmes*, were sent to *London*, where they were tried, convicted, and executed as traitors. Those of an inferior rank were tried and executed in the like manner at *Exeter*. The common people, who had been unwarily drawn into the rebellion, were pardoned, and sent to their respective habitations.*

Lord Russel goes into Cornwall. Principal ringleaders executed in London. Others executed in Exeter.

The brave defence made by the Citizens in this rebellion was justly applauded throughout the whole kingdom; and especially by the King and Privy Council, the Lord Protector himself sending them a letter in the King's name, thanking them in the most grateful terms for their courage and fidelity, and assuring them of his Majesty's favour and protection. Soon after the King, by his royal mandate, renewed their Charters, and confirmed their privileges, granting to them and their successors, for ever, the rich Manor of *Exe Island*, of which they had been unjustly deprived from the time of the Norman Conquest.†

The King, by letter, thanks the Citizens & confirms their charter. The Manor of Exe Island granted to the Citizens

A. D. 1551. Inventory taken of the church plate, &c.

A Commission was this year sent from *London*, directed to *Miles, Bishop of Exeter; William Hurst, Mayor; Thomas Prestwood*, and others, commanding them to return an exact inventory of all the plate, jewels, goods, and ornaments, belonging to the several churches within this city and county, which was accordingly done, the Commissioners only requesting that the amount of near one thousand ounces of plate, which had been given by the several parishes towards the making the New Haven, might be exempted. On the receipt of the inventory another order was sent down, which commanded the

* One execution deserves notice, which is that of the *Rev. Mr. Welsh*, Vicar of St. Thomas the Apostle, near Exeter, who, though possessed of many amiable qualities, was a conspicuous ringleader and abettor of this unnatural rebellion, which being proved on his trial, as well as the murder of —— *Kingwell*, a Protestant, whom he caused to be hung on a tree in Exe Island, he was condemned to be hung on a gibbet erected for that purpose, on the tower of his own Parish Church: this was fully executed, and the body remained on the gibbet till the restoration of Popery, in the reign of Queen Mary.

† Soon after the Conquest *King William* granted to *Richard de Brionis* the Barony of *Oakhampton*, to which he added, as a member, the Manor of *Exe Island:* from him it descended to the *Courtenays*, who kept possession of it (notwithstanding the determination of several suits at law in favor of the Citizens) till the attainder of *Henry Courtenay*, Marquis of *Exeter*, A. D. 1538, when it reverted to the crown, where it remained till this period.

CHAP. III. Commissioners to send up all the superfluous plate, crucifixes, images of Saints, &c. to be disposed of for the use of Government.

A. D. 1552. A pension of 40*s.* per annum was granted under the common seal of this city to *Sir Peter Carew, Knight.*

King *Edward*, to the great grief of the Protestant part of the nation, died on the 6th of July, 1553, aged only 16 years, and was succeeded by his eldest sister, *Mary.*

MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of EDWARD VI.

1547.	William Smith.	Henry Harris.
John Midwinter.	Richard Prestwood.	Robert Horwood.
John Drake.	William Reynolds.	
Thomas Skidmore.	Thomas Lambert.	1552.
John Bodley.		*William Tothill.*
John Blackall.	1550.	John Periam.
	Thomas Prestwood.	Thomas Spicer.
1548.	John Hurst.	John Smith.
John Blackaller.	Walter Staplehill.	Richard Gifford.
William Tothill.	Peter Lake.	
Jeffery Arundel.	Thomas Beaufitz.	1553.
Henry Maunder.		*William Smith.*
John Tooker.	1551.	Walter Staplehill.
	William Hurst.	John Peter.
1549.	Morris Levermore.	John Dyer.
John Tuckfield.	John Trowbridge.	Thomas Richardson.

Mary. 1553. There was a short *interregnum* from the death of King *Edward* to the accession of his sister, *Mary.* He, well knowing his sister's attachment to the Papal religion, appointed, by his last will, the *Lady Jane Grey*, his first cousin, to succeed him on the throne, and she was accordingly proclaimed Queen; but many of the principal nobility espousing the interest of *Mary*, the unfortunate *Lady Jane* was deserted by her friends, and she willingly resigned her pretensions.

Lady Jane Grey proclaimed Queen.

Queen Mary restores the Romish religion. *Mary*, on her accession, set the *Roman Catholics* at liberty, restored the deprived Bishops, and allowed a general liberty of conscience until the sitting of the parliament, when by an act they restored the *Romish religion*, and forbad the exercise of any other on pain of death.

Little Conduit in South-gate-street. The little Conduit, in *South-gate-Street*, was re-built at the expence of the Mayor, (for this year) *William Smith, Esq.**

* This Conduit stood where the Pump now stands, but becoming ruinous, and the pipes being choked or lost, a well was dug, and the Pump erected in its place.

John Vowell, (alias *Hooker*) author of the ancient *History of Exeter*, was appointed the first Chamberlain thereof.

A. D. 1554. Queen *Mary* having married *Philip*, King of *Spain*, called a new parliament, who passed an act for entirely suppressing the Protestant religion, and restoring the Roman Catholic; after which *Cardinal Pole* reconciled the nation to the See of *Rome*, and absolved it from all ecclesiastical censure. The nation resumes the Popish yoke.

1555. *Sir John Pollard*, *Knight*, was admitted to the freedom of this city, and afterwards chosen one of its representatives in parliament, wherein he proved of great service in promoting the liberties of the Citizens.

1556. The Merchant adventurers of this city trading to *France* and beyond the seas were incorporated by the Queen's charter. Merchants incorporated.

Queen Mary persecutes the Protestants. The Queen, through the instigation of *Gardiner*, Bishop of *Winchester*, and *Bonner*, Bishop of *London*, persecuted the Protestants with unrelenting severity: great numbers refusing to recant were executed with the most excruciating tortures, among whom was one *Agnes Priest*, a poor woman of *Launceston*, in *Cornwall*; she being very zealous for the Protestant religion, contrary to the opinion of her husband and children, they endeavoured to prevail on her to go to Mass; but she refusing, they used her very cruelly; and, in order to avoid such hardships, she left her family and wandered up and down the country: some time after, returning home, her husband and children informed against her to *Dr. Turberville*, Bishop of *Exeter*, who caused her to be apprehended and brought to his prison; where she, in the most public manner, declared her sentiments of religion, denying the real presence in the sacrament of the Lord's supper, asserting it was the type and figure only, and that no person doth *really* eat the body of *Christ*, but *spiritually*: after several examinations, refusing to recant these opinions, she was condemned to be burnt, and this sentence was accordingly executed upon her on *Southernhay*, 15th August, 1557. Agnes Priest burnt on Southernhay.

1557. After her condemnation she was visited by some friends, who offered her money, but she refused it, saying, she was going to a place where money had no mastery.

Queen Mary dies. The unrelenting severity of the Queen and her Ministers, with the loss of *Calais*, which had been taken from the *English*, by the *French*, entirely alienated the affections of her subjects: this so preyed upon her spirits, that she died of a broken heart, on 17th November, 1558, to the great joy of the Protestants: and was succeeded by her sister *Elizabeth*.

CHAP. III. *MAYORS* and BAILIFFS in the reign of Queen MARY.

1554.
John Midwinter.
Griffith Ameredith.
Michael Brown.
William May.
John Coggan.

1555.
Morris Levermore.
John Peter.
William Seldon.
John Spark.
Peter Tross.

1556.
Walter Staplehill.
Robert Midwinter.
Richard Hellyard.
Stephen Vilvain.
John Howell.

1557.
John Peter.
John Blackall.
Eustace Oliver.
Thomas Marshall.
Robert Chave.

1558.
John Buller.
Richard Prestwood.
Simon Knight.
Thomas Chapell.
Edward Lymett.

Queen Elizabeth. A. D. 1558. The Protestant religion restored. Removal of the Popish Bishop of Exeter. New Bishop comes to Exeter. Dispute between the Mayor and the Bishop settled by the Queen, who confirms the city's charters.

Elizabeth ascended the throne to the general joy of the Protestants, and began her reign by restoring the reformed religion. Soon after her coronation she deprived the Popish Bishops, and filled the vacant Sees with such learned men as she knew were zealous in the Protestant interest: *Dr. Turberville*, the Bishop of *Exeter*, was removed, and *William Alleigh*, a learned man, was appointed in his room; who, when he came to take possession of his Diocess, (accompanied by the Earl of *Bedford*, Lord-Lieutenant of the county of *Devon*) was received with great pomp and solemnity, by the Mayor and Citizens, and conducted to the Cathedral.

Soon after this a dispute arose between the Mayor and Bishop: the latter had obtained a commission of the Queen to act as a Justice of the Peace, within the limits of the city, but this being contrary to the charters granted to the Citizens, the Mayor strongly opposed his acting in that capacity within his limits; and the dispute being referred to the Queen, she approved of the Mayor's conduct, and ordered the Bishop to desist from his pretensions, and confirmed the Citizens in all their former rights and privileges.

1561. Charter for Orphans granted. High School re-built.

The Queen granted the city a charter, under her great seal, for Orphans, which was confirmed the next year by an Act of Parliament.

The Grammar School, (commonly called the High School) near the little Conduit,* in the High-Street, being in a ruinous state, was, by a contribution of the Citizens (at the request of the schoolmaster, Mr. Williams) new built, ceiled, and seated.

* This Conduit was situated in the middle of the street, near St. Lawrence's church, and hath long since been demolished: the porch of the said church was built out of the materials. The statue of Queen Elizabeth, now standing on the porch, was removed from this Conduit.

A. D.

The lands appropriated for the maintenance of the alms people, in the *Combrew*, *(Lord Bonville's* alms-houses in *Rock-Lane)** by the attainder of the said Lord, reverting to the Queen, and there being at the dissolution of Monasteries four almsmen still remaining in the late dissolved hospital of *St. John*,† the Queen, by her letters patent, dated 7th November, 1562, ordered the pay of the said poor alms people and pensioners of *St. John's Hospital* to be continued from the crown, and invested in the Mayor and Chamber the appointment of the said poor people and pensioners, to them and their heirs for ever. 1562. The Queen's patent for continuing the pay to the poor people of Bonville's alms houses and St. John's hospital.

An order was made by the Mayor and Chamber that all the poor people belonging to the alms-houses within the city and its suburbs (excepting such as were incapable through age or sickness) should attend Divine service daily at the Cathedral. 1563. Alms people to attend Divine service daily.

The Plague raging in *London* all communication therewith was forbid; and St. Nicholas's fair was for this year discontinued.

An annuity of £10 per annum was granted by the Mayor and Chamber to *Sir William Cecil, Knight;* and another annuity, of twenty marks per annum, was granted to *Mr. Jeffery Tothill,* in token of their past services to the Citizens. 1564.

Some thieves found means to rob the Exchequer belonging to the Cathedral, but finding the booty more than they wanted, they returned the overplus. 1565.

The latter end of this year there was a severe frost, which was attended by a sudden thaw; in consequence of it great inundations were caused which did much damage, particularly to the bridges and weirs; *Calabear Weir* (now *Head Weir)* was entirely destroyed, but afterwards re-built in a much stronger manner. 1568. A great frost, and sudden thaw.

The Plague broke out in this city, and raged with such violence that it occasioned most of the principal inhabitants and their families to leave their habitations, and seek a refuge in the country from this deplorable calamity. 1569. A great plague.

Agnes, the wife of *John James,* late of this city, was burnt on *Southernhay,* for poisoning her husband. 1571.

* These alms-houses through the neglect of the trustees many years ago were suffered to run to decay, so that there is not the least vestige remaining. The site was granted to Colonel Newton, of Exeter, whose heirs sold it to Mr. Stribling, and it now belongs to Mr. Robert Russel; but the alms people's bounty is still received from the crown, by the Chamber.

† The pay of these pensioners, or almsmen, has lately been discontinued; though two of them are still living: —— Grigg, a Shoemaker, and —— Barret, a Peruke Maker.

CHAP. III.

A. D. 1574. A Pension granted to Sir Gawen Carew, &c.

A pension of 40*s.* per annum was granted to *Sir Gawen Carew, Knight;* and after his decease to remain to *Edmund Tremayne, Esq.* for his life, in gratitude for the great services they had rendered to the city.

1575. Citizens present Thomas Williams, Esq. with £20 in gold

Thomas Williams, Esq. one of the representatives of this city, being chosen Speaker of the House of Commons, was presented, by the Citizens, with a purse containing £20 in gold, as a token of their gratitude for the great services he had done them; but dying soon after *Sir Peter Carew* was elected by the Citizens in his room, as one of their representatives.

1576.

A Court of Hustings was erected in the Guildhall, and seats properly built for the better accommodation of the Mayor and Aldermen; and in the following year the Hall was new glazed, ceiled, and beautified, and a pump erected in the front of it.

1578.

John Jones, of this city, Goldsmith, presented to the Mayor a silver bason and ewer, (value £30) for the use of him and his successors, at all public entertainments, for ever.

The Queen orders Houses of Correction to be built.

Before the late dissolution of Monasteries numbers of poor people were daily fed and relieved at the gates of the Abbeys and Nunneries, who being thus indulged in a habit of idleness, and having no inclination to labour, rambled up and down the country, which was filled with lusty mendicants, to the great hurt of the industrious. This being represented to her Majesty, she ordered Houses of Correction to be erected in the cities and towns, and proper officers placed therein, to compel those who were able to maintain themselves by hard labour, and to punish the refractory. Pursuant to this order one was erected in this city, by the voluntary contributions of the Citizens; who, seeing the necessity of the measure, subscribed very largely towards the erection of it, and its future maintenance.

One is erected in this city.

1580. Eleven horsemen sent into Ireland.

The Queen commanded the Dean and Chapter to furnish eleven horsemen, with proper arms and furniture, to be sent into *Ireland*, on her Majesty's service, to join the army there opposing the rebellion of O'Neal.

1581. Custom of gavelkind.

Great part of the lands of this city and county being held by the custom of *gavelkind*,* an Act of Parliament was procured (at the expence of the Mayor and Chamber) by which all lands within the same should descend and be inheritable, as lands at common law.

* Gavelkind, i. e. give all kind; a custom derived from our Saxon ancestors, by which all lands were equally divided among the sons, the youngest receiving an equal share with the eldest.

The new canal, leading to the quay, was enlarged, deepened, and sluices erected thereon, for the better conveying of merchandize up to the city.

Sluices erected on the new canal.

The Right Honourable *William*, Earl of *Bath*, was, on the 7th of August, this year, married at St. Stephen's church, in this city, to the Lady *Elizabeth Russel*, daughter to the Earl of *Bedford;* on which occasion the Citizens presented the new married couple with a bason and ewer of silver, richly gilt: they also made a grand cavalcade, and exhibited all manner of diversions, on *Southernhay*, in honour of the said marriage, the lady being a native of this city, and born in *Bedford-house*.

A. D. 1582. The Earl of Bath married to the Lady Elizabeth Russel

An ancient custom was now confirmed, by an act of the Mayor and Common Council, to compel every inhabitant, whose house shall have happened to be on fire, to pay a fine of 20*s.* and for every chimney on fire, 6*s.* 8*d.**

1583. Fines for houses and chimneys on fire.

Don Anthonio, who had been crowned King of *Portugal*, but was driven thence by the *Spaniards*, came to this city, in his way to *London*, to solicit aid from Queen *Elizabeth*, and was hospitably received and entertained, with his retinue, at the Mayor's house, during the whole of his stay.

1584. The King of Portugal comes to this city.

At the Lent Assizes held this year at the castle of *Exeter*, before *Sir Edmund Anderson*, *Lord Chief Justice* of the Common Pleas, and *Sergeant Flowerby*, one of the Barons of the Exchequer, a noisome pestilential smell came from the prisoners who were arraigned at the Crown Bar, which so affected the people present that many were seized with a violent sickness, which proved mortal to the greatest part of them: of those who sat on the Bench there died the *Judge*, *Sergeant Flowerby*, *Sir John Chichester*, *Sir Arthur Basset*, and *Sir Bernard Drake*, *Knights; Thomas Carew*, *R. Carey*, *John Fortescue*, *John Waldron*, and *Thomas Risdon*, *Esquires*, Justices of the Peace; eleven of the Jurymen, and a great number of Constables and others who attended the Court.

1586. Terrible sickness breaks out at the Assizes.

The Judge, 8 Justices, 11 Jurymen, and many others die of it.

The disorder spread itself through the city and surrounding country, proving fatal to numbers. This Assize, from the consequences attending it, was called the *Black Assize*. The sickness was supposed to have originated from some *Portuguese* seamen, whose ship being taken by *Sir Bernard Drake*, on her voyage from *Newfoundland*, laden with fish, the crew, in number thirty-eight, men and boys, were sent to the goal, near *Exeter Castle;* and being greatly emaciated, from a long voyage

The supposed occasion of this sickness.

* The fine of 6*s.* 8*d.* is still demanded, in case of chimneys being on fire, and distresses made on refusal of payment; this, though distressing to individuals, is beneficial to the community, as it makes the Citizens careful in keeping their chimneys always clear from soot.

CHAP. III.

and want of provisions, and confined in a stinking dungeon,* having no change of apparel, and lying on the damp ground, they infected one another; and no proper care being taken of them, they most part sickened and many died.

The infection was soon communicated to the other prisoners, and few of them escaped the fatality of the disorder. These unhappy foreigners were ordered to be brought for examination before the Justices; but being reduced by famine and sickness, they were unable to stand, and therefore were carried by men, on hand-barrows, to the court, where they excited the commiseration of the spectators: proper care was then taken of them, and the survivors were sent to *Portugal*.

A. D. 1587.

The Queen having granted the forfeited estates of the *Irish rebels* to such of her subjects as would undertake the plantation and defence of them against the incursions of the wild *Irish*, *Sir Walter Raleigh*, *Sir William Courtenay*, and several other *Devonshire* gentlemen, accepted the offer, and went over to *Ireland*, (accompanied by a number of their tenants and followers, among whom were several artificers and tradesmen of *Exeter*, with their families) where they planted the county of *Desmond*, and several other places, and laid the foundation of great estates; particularly *Sir William Courtenay's*, which consists of almost the whole county of *Limerick*, and which is now in the possession of the *Right Honourable Lord Viscount Courtenay*.

Many gentlemen of Devon and inhabitants of Exeter go over to Ireland to settle.

1588. The Spanish invasion.

The long projected invasion of this kingdom by the *Spaniards* (for which they had many years been making immense preparations) was now about to take place; and the Queen having notice of their intention of soon sailing, she sent orders to all the maritime counties to embody their militia, and to make every necessary preparation to defeat the designs of their enemies. These orders being received by the Mayor of this city, he acquainted the Citizens, and represented to them the danger they were in if they did not unanimously oppose the invasion of so cruel and implacable a foe. The Citizens immediately put themselves in arms, and joined in an address to the Queen, declaring themselves ever ready to oppose her enemies, and to support the Protestant religion at the hazard of their

The Queen's order for the Citizens to arm themselves.

The Citizens address the Queen.

* The dungeon here alluded to cannot at this time be ascertained. In the old goal there was not the least vestige or appearance of any subterranean place of confinement; neither in the castle, if we except the passage under the walls to the sally-port, commonly termed the dungeon, which was often used as a black-hole for punishing soldiers; and a dreadful damp place of confinement it was.

lives and fortunes; assuring her they were in readiness to march and join her army whenever wanted.

Citizens fit out three ships.

By a voluntary contribution they also fitted out three ships, which were manned, armed, and maintained, at their own expence, and sent to reinforce the Queen's fleet.

The Queen sends a letter of thanks.

The Queen, in a letter, returned them her most grateful thanks, and granted them the honour of bearing the motto, *Semper Fidelis*, for ever, under their city arms; and appointed *John Carpenter*, *Esq.* to be their Muster Master.

Force of the Spanish fleet which sailed for England.

The *Spanish* fleet, consisting of 132 sail of large ships, 20 caravals, for conveying artillery and stores, and 10 small vessels, of six oars each, having on board 8,766 sailors, 2,088 galley slaves, 21,855 soldiers, and 3,165 pieces of cannon, (these were to be joined by the *Prince* of *Parma*, on their arrival off the *English* coast, with 30,000 foot and 1,800 horse) set sail from *Corunna*, but meeting with a violent storm were obliged to put back, notice of which being obtained by the *English* fleet, then cruising at the mouth of the *British Channel*, to intercept their passage, they returned into *Plymouth;* and thinking the danger over for that year, began to dismantle their ships: the *Spaniards*, however, soon repaired their damages, and again set sail for the *English* coasts; but being happily descried by *Captain Winter*, who commanded a small Scottish privateer, he hastened to *Plymouth* and gave notice to the English commanders of the approach of the *Spanish* fleet.

The Spaniards approach the English coast,

And sail up the channel.

The contrary winds prevented the *English* fleet from coming out of harbour, and the *Spaniards* proceeded up the channel, (their fleet being drawn up in the form of a crescent) and passing *Plymouth*, continued their voyage under a slow and easy sail, in sight of the inhabitants, who were posted in the most accessible parts of the coast, to prevent their descent.

The Devonshire gentlemen exert themselves.

The *English* having with difficulty warped their ships out of *Plymouth*, followed them with a much inferior force; while the gentlemen of *Devonshire* greatly exerted themselves by fitting out all the ships they could procure, and hastened to join the *English* fleet, where they behaved themselves with the greatest intrepidity, and contributed highly to the success that followed.

The Spaniards are several times defeated.

The *Prince* of *Parma* was prevented by the vigilance of the *English* and *Dutch* squadrons from joining the *Spanish* forces; in consequence of which, and meeting with several defeats, the *Spaniards* endeavoured to escape homewards round the north of *Scotland* and *Ireland*, where so many of their ships were lost as out of the whole which left *Spain* only 97 returned,

CHAP. III. and most of their crews were lost. The loss of the *English* was only one ship and about one hundred men; thus the despotic designs of the *Spanish* Monarch to subjugate this nation, and extirpate the Protestant religion, was frustrated, through the providence of the Almighty, and the bravery of our ancestors.

Spaniards return home with great loss.

The Devonshire gentlemen who distinguished themselves.

Among the *Devonshire* worthies who distinguished themselves on this glorious occasion were *Sir Francis Drake, Sir Martin Forbisher, Sir John Hawkins, Sir Humphrey Gilbert, Sir Walter Raleigh, Sir Robert Carey, Knights; and Edward Fulford, Esq.* then Sheriff of the county of *Devon*.

A. D. 1589. The plague again appeared in this city; it broke out in the month of September, but was not of long continuance, as cold weather commencing put a stop to its ravages.

1591. The *Serge Market*, heretofore kept in *North-Street*, was removed, by order of the Chamber, into *South-gate-Street*, to be held between *Bear-Lane* and the *Little Conduit*, as being a more convenient place.

1592. Several of the city Butchers having riotously abused the country Butchers who kept the markets, and forcibly taken the meat from their stalls, were committed to prison for the said offences.

1593. The front of the Guildhall was re-built.

A scarcity of corn. This year there was a great scarcity of corn; and the poor of this city being thereby greatly distressed, a sum of money was advanced by the Mayor and Chamber in order to erect a public granary, and to purchase a quantity of corn to have recourse to in case of any future exigency.

1596. A pension of £4 per annum was granted to *John Hooker*, as a reward for the services done by his father to this city.

A great fire at Tiverton. A great fire happening at *Tiverton*, a collection of £10 was here made and sent to the relief of the poor of that town.

1599. The deep road between the *Wynard's* Alms-houses and the Hospital of *St. Mary Magdalen* was filled up and paved.

1601. Another great fire at Tiverton. Another great fire happening at *Tiverton*, which consumed almost the whole town, £100 was collected by the voluntary contributions of the Citizens and sent as relief.

1602. It was the custom in those days (after the dissolution of the Monasteries) for men of fortune to take a certain number of young gentlemen into their families in order to be educated by their Chaplains. Some of these young gentlemen, who resided at *Sir William Courtenay's*, at *Powderham Castle*, were accused of wantonly assaulting and robbing several persons on the road, as they were going to *Exeter* market, for which they were arraigned and tried at the Assizes. *Sir William Courtenay* appearing on the Bench, to speak in their behalf, and insisting

that they did it only by way of a frolic, and that they were able and willing to make any reasonable satisfaction to their accusers, the Judge would not adhere to it, but declared the law should take its course: on this *Sir William* rose up in a violent passion, put his hand to his sword, and loudly exclaimed that *he would make the Judge's shirt so red as his scarlet gown.*

Sir William Courtenay insults the Judge on the Bench.

Sir William, however, reflecting coolly on the outrage he had committed against the person of her Majesty's representative, and fearing the consequences, took horse immediately and rode post to *London;* and falling at her Majesty's feet, he confessed his fault and implored her pardon, which the Queen for some time refused, and ordered him into custody: but having more than ordinary regard for his family, she soon released and pardoned him.*

Queen *Elizabeth* departed this life on the 24th March, 1603, to the great grief of her subjects. She was succeeded by *James*, the 6th of that name King of *Scotland*, and the *first* of *England.*

MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

1559.
Robert Midwinter.
John Paramore, Ob.
John Woolcot.
James Walker.
Hubert Colwell.
William Chapell.

1560.
John Blackall.
John Dyer.
Richard Gibbs.
Richard Hazlewood.
Jeffery Thomas.

1561.
William Hurst.
Hugh Pope.
Thomas Prestwood.
Ralph Duckenfield.
Gilbert Saywell.

1562.
John Peter.
Edward Bridgman.
Philip Yard.
William Grigg.
William Lant.

1563.
John Peryam.
Thomas Richardson.
George Peryman.
Henry Ellicott.
Richard Prowse.

1564.
Morris Levermore.
John Smith.
Thomas May.
Andrew Geer.
John Webb.

1565.
John Woolcot.
Robert Chave.
Thomas Bruerton.
Robert Lambell.
Alexander Trigg.

1566.
Thomas Richardson.
Simon Knight.
Nicholas Martin.
John Pope.
Thomas Bird.

* Tradition says he struck the Judge, and for that reason the family were obliged to bear a bloody hand in their coat of arms: this is a great mistake, the bloody hand, gules, being the arms of *Ulster*, in *Ireland*, and is the badge of distinction of all Baronets: neither do I find that any of the family ever made use of that distinction, it being beneath their pretensions, as descendants of the ancient Earls of Devon.

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1567.
John Smith.
William Chapell.
Thomas Martin.
John Hutchins.
John Jones.

1568.
Robert Chave.
Edward Lymett.
John Levermore.
Richard Newman.
Roger Robinson.

1569.
William Chapell.
Thomas Bruerton.
John Pyle.
William Hunt.
John Collins.

1570.
Simon Knight.
William Tryvett.
William Paramore.
Hugh Willsdon.
Walter Jones.

1571.
Thomas Bruerton.
Nicholas Martin.
John Dorn.
William Martin.
William Mongwell.

1572.
John Peryam, Ob.
John Blackall.
Thomas Prestwood.
Thomas Raymond.
Henry James.
Richard Sweet.

1573.
William Tryvett.
George Peryman.
John Davy.
Alexander Mayne.
Thomas Chapell.

1574.
Nicholas Martin.
John Pope.
John Peryam.
John Sandford.
Richard Harding.

1575.
John Peter.
Richard Prowse.
George Smith.
Nicholas Spicer.
Richard Beaufitz.

1576.
Thos. Prestwood, Ob.
Robert Chave.
Thomas Martin.
Thomas Spicer.
Laurence Barcomb.
John Chapell.

1577.
George Peryman.
Michael Germyn.
John Hakewill.
John Dodd.
John Field.

1578.
Richard Prowse.
Jeffery Thomas.
William Perry.
Thomas Turberville.
William Shepherd.

1579.
Wm. Chapell, Ob.
Simon Knight.
Thomas Raymond.
John Applin.
John Brushford.
Peter Vilvain.

1580.
Thomas Bruerton.
John Davy.
Robert Webber.
John Biggins.
Nicholas Carpenter.

1581.
Thomas Martin.
John Peryam.
Henry Hull.
Richard Dorchester.
Henry Spurway.

1582.
Michael Germyn.
George Smith.
John Howell.
John Follett.
John Moor.

1583.
Jeffery Thomas.
William Martin.
Thomas Walker.
Richard Jourden.
Nicholas Errom.

1584.
John Davy.
John Levermore.
John Prowse.
Thomas Bridgman.
Nicholas Spicer.

1585.
Nicholas Martin.
Thomas Chapell.
William Spicer.
Gilbert Smith.
Richard Perry.

1586.
George Smith.
Nicholas Spicer.
Laurence Seldon.

William Brayly.
Thomas Edwards.

1587.
John Peryam.
Philip Yard.
John Ellicott.
Jasper Horsey.
Roger Selby.

1588.
Thomas Chapell.
Thomas Spicer.
Thomas Radford.
Richard Reynolds.
Thomas Greenwood.

1589.
Richard Prowse.
John Chapell.
Edward Langdon.
Walter Horsey.
John Payne.

1590.
William Martin.
Richard Sweet, Ob.
John Howell.
William Newcombe.
Walter Borough.
Thomas Baskerville.

1591.
Michael Germyn.
Thomas Walker.
Jeremy Hilliard.
Hillary Galley.
John Deptford.

1592.
Nicholas Spicer.
Richard Beavis.
Walter Body.
Alnett Budley.
Richard Wheaton.

1593.
Thomas Spicer.
Henry Hull.
Alexander Germyn.
Paul Triggs.
Henry Payne.

1594.
John Davy.
Christopher Spicer.
Hugh Crossing.
John Lant.
Clem. Oldborough.

1595.
John Chapell.
Richard Dorchester.
John Chapell, Jun.
Jeffery Waltham.
John Eades.

1596.
John Levermore.
Rd. Jourden, Ob.
Alexander Mayne.
Thomas Blackaller.
David Bagwell.
Robert Parr.

1597.
George Smith.
William Spicer.
John Sandy.
Samuel Alford.
William Pope.

1598.
John Peryam.
John Prowse.
John Taylor.
Nicholas Langdon.
Richard Body.

1599.
John Howell.
Thomas Edwards.
Giles Savery.
William Martin.
Ignatius Jourden.

1600.
William Martin.
John Ellicott.
John Lambell.
Thomas Snow.
Richard Brindley.

1601.
Thomas Walker.
Walter Borough.
John Sheer.
John Marshall.
Hugh Morell.

1602.
Richard Beavis, Ob.
William Martin.
Alexander Germyn.
Robert Ellicott.
Richard Sweet.
John Modyford.

1603.
Nicholas Spicer.
Hugh Crossing.
Nicholas Beavis.
Oliver Tapper.
Robert Hind.

James, the first Monarch of *England* of the house of *Stewart*, was proclaimed with great solemnity in this city, on the 29th March, 1603, by the style and title of King of *England*, *Scotland*, *France*, and *Ireland*. A. D. 1603. James I.

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The plague visits the city. A pest-house built.

The Plague again visiting this city the Mayor and Chamber, to prevent the spreading of the infection, provided a Pest-house for the better relief of the poor people who might be infected by this dreadful scourge; yet, notwithstanding all their precautions, it spread through the city and raged with great violence for some time, which prevented *Lammas* and *Magdalen* fairs from being held this year.

A. D. 1605. Tower of St Sidwell's church re-built.

The Tower of *St. Sidwell's* church having been greatly damaged in the late insurrection of the *Devon* and *Cornish* rebels, a contribution was voluntarily raised by the Citizens to defray the expences of re-building the same.

1606. New city maces made

Elegant new silver Maces, with the King's arms embossed thereon, was made for the city Sergeants.

Holloway new paved.

The dangerous road without *South-gate* (termed, from its deepness, *Holloway*) was filled up, levelled, and paved.

1607. The poor relieved in a dearth of corn.

The prices of corn advancing greatly in the markets, a large quantity was procured from abroad, by the contributions of the rich Citizens, and this was stored and retailed to the poor at reduced prices.

1611. The sword-bearer executed for murder.

Thomas Tooker, who had been lately elected Sword-bearer of this city, being convicted of the murder of his wife, was condemned at the Assize, held at the castle, and executed at *Heavitree* gallows.

1612. Northern-hay walk made.

The ancient counterscarp of the castle (now called *Northern-hay*) was levelled, trees planted thereon, benches erected, and a fine gravel walk made, at the expence of the Chamber, for the accommodation of the Citizens.

1618. Sir Walter Raleigh

This year the great *Sir Walter Raleigh*, whose merits as a statesman, soldier, seaman, or historian, can hardly be equalled, fell a sacrifice to the cunning artifices of *Gundamore*, the *Spanish* Ambassador.

Sir Walter had been accused of being an accomplice in a pretended plot, in the beginning of this reign, for which he was condemned to die; but strong circumstances appearing in his favour, his execution was deferred, and he was confined a prisoner, under sentence of death, in the Tower of *London*, for near thirteen years; during this time he wrote his incomparable *History of the World*.

Confined 13 years in the Tower of London.

Is permitted to go to America.

At length, petitioning the King for his discharge, he was permitted to undertake a voyage to *Guiana*, in *South America*, in order to discover and take possession of some gold mines.

Returns unsuccessful.

Accordingly, with the broken remains of his fortune, he fitted out three ships, and proceeded on his voyage; but this proving unsuccessful, after a series of misfortunes, and the loss of his only son, he returned home after an absence of three years.

On his return his conduct was misrepresented to the weak King, who had been deceived in his hopes of the golden treasure he expected from the voyage: and *Gundamore*, exasperated at the great damages *Sir Walter* had done the *Spaniards*, in the late Queen's reign, and willing to remove him out of the way, left no measures untried to gratify his revenge; he accordingly represented to the King that *Sir Walter* had exceeded his commission, and done great damage to his master's subjects.

Sir Walter Raleigh again committed prisoner, And beheaded.

The pusillanimous King commanded him again a prisoner to the Tower; from thence he was removed to the Gate-house, *Westminster*, and ordered to be returned to his former sentence: thus delivered to the Sheriff, he was beheaded in the Palace-yard, *Westminster*, and his body buried in *St. Margaret's* Church.

Before his execution he in a letter to his wife desired her to beg his body of his enemies, to be interred either in *Sherborne* Church, or with his father, in *Exeter* Cathedral; but this small request was not granted. The place of *Sir Walter Raleigh's* birth has been disputed; some placing it at *Budleigh*, others at *Exeter*, in the house adjoining the gate of the Bishop's Palace; for the latter there seems some reason, his father residing there many years: but whether a native of *Exeter* or not, this tribute is justly due to his memory.*

King *James* was the most pacific Monarch that had heretofore reigned in this kingdom; and sooner than engage himself in the horrors of war he submitted to many indignities which his subjects received from foreign powers, particularly from the *Spanish* and *Dutch*. The cruelties of the latter to the *English* Merchants, at *Amboyna*, will be for ever remembered with a just indignation against a Monarch who tamely suffered his subjects to be cruelly tortured and murdered in cold blood, and by those who but a few years before had been delivered from the galling yoke of the *Spaniards* through the assistance of the late Queen *Elizabeth*, and the valour of the *English* nation.

The woollen trade greatly increased in this city.

However, to give King *James* the praise where it is due, his pacific reign proved very advantageous to his subjects, by increasing their commerce, and encouraging their manufactories, particularly the *woollen*, which was greatly advanced in this

* Thus fell the great and much lamented *Sir Walter Raleigh*, whose unmerited death will ever be a stain in the annals of the weak James I. for sacrificing the faithful servant of his benefactor and predecessor to the artful wiles of an intriguing foreigner. And justly may the Satirist say,

Rex fuit Elizabeth; nunc est Regina Jacobus.
Elizabeth was a King; but James a Queen.

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The Citizens extend their commerce.

city, and proved a source of wealth hitherto unknown to the Citizens; their trade before this period being confined mostly to the opposite coasts of *France* and *Germany;* but now it was extended to *Italy*, *Turkey*, and other parts of the *Levant;* and they sent their woollen cloths in large ships of their own, and brought back the commodities of those countries: thus many families rose to opulence, and laid the foundation of great estates, which are now enjoyed by their descendants, in the neighbourhood of *Exeter*. They were also concerned in the plantation of the *American* colonies, many families emigrating to *America*, where they built a town, which they named *Exeter*, in remembrance of their native city.

Many families enriched thereby.

The town of Exeter built in America.

A. D. 1622. The Chamber purchase the Priory of St. John.

The Mayor and Chamber having purchased the late dissolved Priory of *St. John*, within the *East-gate*, procured a charter from the King for converting it into an hospital for poor men: they also expended upwards of £400 of their own stock in the necessary repairs of the said hospital.

1623.

The King sent down his letters patent for renewing the commissions of the Deputy Lieutenants of this city and county.

1624. A great plague almost desolates the city.

The plague again visited this city; its beginning here was in the month of July, and it continued its ravages for the space of a year, cutting off whole families, and leaving the city almost destitute of inhabitants.

1625. The new Mayor, on account of the plague, refuses the office.

The plague continuing to rage, *Thomas Walker, Esq.* who had been elected Mayor, refused to take the office, through fear of the disorder, and retired into the country, upon which a petition was sent to the King, who, by his letter, commanded the said Mayor to undertake the office, on his allegiance, which he accordingly did, and executed it to the satisfaction of his fellow Citizens.

Pest-house purchased. All common beggars sent to the House of Correction.

A Pest-house was purchased by the Chamber (in the parish of *St. Sidwell*) for the better accommodation of the poor, who might be infected with the plague: and an order was made by the Justices for apprehending and committing to the House of Correction all common beggars that should be found in the streets.

King James dies.

King *James* died on the 27th March, 1625, and was succeeded by his only son, *Charles* I.

1604.
John Davy.
William Newcombe.
W. Horsham, Ob.
John Penny.
Thomas Crossing.
Thomas Richardson.

1605.
Henry Hull.
John Lant.
Thomas Martin.
Edward Clement.
Peter Colleton.

1606.
Richard Dorchester.
Gilbert Smith.
John Gupwill.
John Acland.
George Pyle.

1607.
Sir Geo. Smith, Kt.
Jeffery Waltham.
Robert Parr, Ob.
Peter Bolt.
George Leech.
Thomas Wakeman.

1608.
John Prowse.
John Marshall.
Thomas Amy.
Chris. Spicer.
John Blight.

1609.
Hugh Crossing.
John Sheer.
William Grigg.
John Hayne.
William Birdall.

1610.
Walter Borough.
Ignatius Jourden.
Thomas Flay.
John Jourden.
John Lynn.

1611.
John Lant.
Thomas Martin.
Nicholas Spicer.
John Crocker.
John Tirry.

1612.
William Newcombe.
John Modyford.
William Mace.
Abraham Paul.
Anthony Salter.

1613.
Jeffery Waltham.
John Gupwill.
John Chave.
Gilbert Sweet.
James Taylor.

1614.
Thomas Walker.
Thomas Crossing.
John Levermore.
George Passmore.
Henry Willet.

1615.
John Marshall.
John Taylor.
Richard Prowse.
Hugh Germyn.
William Bartlett.

1616.
John Sheer.
Thomas Amy.
Nicholas Martin.
Christopher Clark.
William Read.

1617.
Ignatius Jourden.
Peter Colleton.
Adam Bennet.
John Hakewill.
John Savage.

1618.
Thomas Martin.
John Acland.
Nicholas Ricroft.
Roger Yeo.
Alexander Osborne.

1619.
John Prowse.
George Pyle.
Walter Wight.
John Pearse.
George Langworthy.

1620.
Hugh Crossing.
John Lynn.
William Skinner.
Richard Sanders.
Thomas Tooker.

1621.
Walter Borough.
Thomas Wakeman.
Francis Crossing.
Henry Battishil.
John Garland.

1622.
John Modyford.
Roger Mallock.
Richard Herbert.
John Jourden.
John Mongwell.

1623.
John Gupwill.
Nicholas Spicer.

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	James Tucker.	1624.	Hugh Crocker.
	John Cooze.	*Thomas Crossing.*	Nicholas Mercer.
	Tristrani Mitchell.	Thomas Flay.	Augustine Drake.

A. D. 1625. Charles I. 1627.

King *Charles* was proclaimed in this city March 31st, 1625. The plague raging in the city of *Salisbury* a collection was made by the inhabitants of this city for the relief of the poor of *Salisbury*, which collection (amounting to a considerable sum) was accordingly sent.

The King grants a new charter to the city of Exeter.

This year the King renewed the privileges of this city, and granted a new charter, which was not a confirmation only of their former rights, but an addition thereto: it follows at large, in a faithful translation from the Latin original.

CHARTER.

"*Charles*, by the grace of God, King of *England*, *Scotland*, *France*, and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, and so forth, to all whom these presents shall come, greeting:"

Preamble and consideration.

"*Whereas* divers of our most illustrious ancestors, or predecessors, late Kings and Queens of *England*, have (of their special grace and royal favour, shewn towards their beloved subjects, the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the city of *Exeter*, and towards the public good of the same city: and also in consideration of the approved allegiance and faithful services which they the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty have from time to time done to the said Kings and Queens, and to the crown of *England*, particularly in the reign of our ancestor, the Lord *Henry* VII. late King of *England*, and also in the reign of *Edward* VI. late King of *England*, by most faithfully adhering to the said King in the time of commotion, and the insurrection and rebellion of his most ungrateful and unfaithful subjects, in divers parts of this kingdom of *England*, in the counties of *Devon* and *Cornwall*, and by boldly resisting the said rebels, and by defending the said city of *Exeter* and the court of the the said King against their most violent attacks, and against those who were continually besieging and blockading [them] for a long time, and in a warlike manner, and with a great number of people, not only to the great cost, expence, and burden of the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city, but also the great hazard and loss of their lives, and distress for want of provisions, before the said late King with his arms and warlike forces arrayed against them could raise the said siege) granted and confirmed divers liberties, usages, privileges,

N. B. The words between crotchets [thus] are added by the translator to complete the sense.

franchises, jurisdictions, and other things, by several charters, or letters patent." CHAP. III.

"*And whereas* we are informed that there are some defects and uncertainties in the said charters and letters patent, *in respect* that some things therein contained for the good government, rule, and advantage of our said city of *Exeter*, and the county of the said city, were not plainly expressed nor granted in words sufficiently apt and proper; and moreover the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city have most humbly besought us that we would (as far as we shall think proper) manifest and extend our royal grace and favour in this behalf, for explaining and reducing to certainty the defects, uncertainties, and doubts of the said charters and letters patent; *and also for an addition* of certain liberties, franchises, and privileges, in such manner as shall seem best by us to be done." Further Preamble.

"*We, therefore*, weighing the premises, and also the allegiance, obedience, and faithful services of the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty, of the said city, continued from time to time to the crown of *England*, of our especial grace, certain knowledge, and of our own mere motives, have willed, ordained, granted, and constituted, and by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, do will, ordain, grant, and constitute, that our said city of *Exeter*, and the county of the said city, and the circuit, jurisdiction, and precincts of the same, may from henceforth be, and may extend and stretch themselves, and may extend and reach, as well in length as breadth, as in circuit and precinct, to such, and the like, and the same bounds, metes, and limits, and in the same manner as the said city of *Exeter*, and the county of the same, and the circuit and precincts, and jurisdiction thereof might extend or reach, at any time before the date of these presents." Grant extent of the city and county as formerly.

"*And moreover*, that all and singular disputes, inconveniences, and litigations, in or about the election of the Mayor, the four Bailiffs, the twenty-four of the Common Council, and the four Sergeants at Mace of the said city, may be entirely taken away, and that all popular tumult may be avoided, and for making a peaceable and quiet election in that behalf, of our more abundant special grace and certain knowledge, and of our own mere motion, we have willed, ordained, granted, constituted, and established, and, by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, we will, ordain, grant, constitute, and establish, that for ever hereafter there may and shall be twenty-four of the most discreet and substantial Citizens of the Common Council of the said city for the term of their lives: and that none of them shall be amoved, unless it be for poverty, sickness, old age, or some other reasonable cause; which cause shall be Principal reasons for granting a new charter. Of the Common Council. Are removeable.

CHAP. III.

adjudged and determined by the residue of the said twenty-four of the Common Council of the said city, or the major part of them; in which cases we will and declare by these presents that any or either of the said twenty-four of the said Common Council are from time to time amoveable, by the residue of them, or the major part of them, for those causes so *allowed*."

"*And* that after the decease or amotion of any or either of such twenty-four of the Common Council of the said city, in form aforesaid, the rest of the said twenty-four, or the major part of them, having notice, and being present, shall, within a convenient time after such death or amotion, elect and choose one or more other person or persons of the most substantial and discreet Citizens, and freemen of the said city, to fill up the said number of twenty-four of the Common Council of the said city, *according to the custom used in our city of London for the election of twenty-four Aldermen there*."

Appoints a Common Council.

"*And moreover*, for the better execution of our will and grant in this behalf, *We* have assigned, nominated, constituted, and made, and, by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, do assign, nominate, constitute, and make our beloved and trusty *John Ackland, Esq.* the present Mayor of our said city of *Exeter*, and our beloved *Thomas Walker, Walter Burrowe, Ignatius Jourden, John Modyford, Thomas Crossing*, and *John Taylor*, Aldermen of the same city, and *George Pyle, John Lynn, John Jourden, Nicholas Spicer, Thomas Flay, Nicholas Martin, John Hakewill, Gilbert Sweet, John Crocker, George Passmore, Francis Crossing, Adam Bennett, Roger Mallack, James Tucker, John Hayne, John Penny*, and *Richard Sanders*, merchants and freemen of the said city, to be the first and *present* twenty-four of the Common Council of the said city, to continue in that office or place during their natural lives, unless in the mean time they, or either of them, shall for any cause be amoved as aforesaid. *And further*, we will, and, by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, do grant unto the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty, and to their successors, that it shall and may be lawful for the Mayor of our city of Exeter for the time being, together with his brethren and the rest of the Commonalty of the same city (being freemen of the said city) yearly, on every Monday next before the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel, to meet together and assemble themselves at the Guildhall of the said city, and then and there the said twenty-four of the Common Council, or *the major part of them*, being present, may and shall, upon their oaths, appoint and nominate (by their *secret votes*, to be taken privately and separately by the Recorder and Common Clerk of the said city for the time being, or by their deputies, and upon their oaths to be collected and computed) two of the best and *most substantial* citizens of the said twenty-four of the said

Election of the Mayor.

Common Council: that is to say, of those who have been before approved in the office of Mayor or Receiver of the said city, (except the Mayor for the time being) of which two, one shall be chosen Mayor of the said city for the year then next following. *And*, that the said twenty-four, or the major part of them, being present, shall and may at the same time elect (as well out of the said twenty-four, as of the rest of the best and most substantial citizens and inhabitants within our city, being freemen of the said city, and of good name and reputation) four Bailiffs of the said city, for the year then next following; of whom one may and shall be Receiver of the said city. *And* that the said twenty-four, or the major part of them, being present, may on the same day elect, according to their discretion, three Sergeants at Mace, out of the freemen of the said city, who may best perform and attend upon their office. *And* after such scrutiny, nomination, and election shall have been so made and had by the said twenty-four, or the major part of them, being present, the Recorder and Common Clerk of the said city for the time being, or one of them, shall declare and publish to the Commonalty of the said city (being freemen of the said city) the names of those two who shall have been nominated by the major part of the votes of the said twenty-four in the scrutiny aforesaid, for the office of Mayor of the said city, for the year then following. *And* that the said Commonalty shall choose one of the said two to be Mayor of the said city, for one year, then next following. *And* that he who shall have the major part of the votes of the freemen of the said city shall be placed in and admitted to the office of Mayor of the said city. *And* after this is done the said Recorder and Common Clerk, or one of them, shall shew and present to the Commonalty of the said city, in the presence of the said twenty-four of the Common Council of the said city, being present, the names of all the other Officers elected for the following year. *And* that yearly, and in every year, for ever, the said Citizen so elected Mayor, and all the said other Officers, elected in manner and form aforesaid, and every of them, shall, upon Monday next after such assembling, election, and publication, in the Guild-hall of the said city, at the court there to be held, before the Judges of the same court for the time being, according to the ancient usage and laudable custom of our said city of *Exeter*, take their corporeal oaths, upon the holy Evangelists of God, well and faithfully to execute their offices respectively. *And* that they be so respectively elected, placed, and sworn into those offices for one whole year, then next following, according to the usage and custom aforesaid. *And* that the said Mayor, after he shall have been sworn in form aforesaid, shall nominate and choose *one able* Citizen, and a freeman of the said city, to be the fourth Sergeant at Mace of the said city, according to

Of the four Bailiffs.

Of the Receiver.

Of the three Sergeants at Mace.

Declaration of the two persons named by the twenty-four, and the election of one of them to be Mayor by the freemen

Declaration of the other Officers.

Swearing of the Mayor and other Officers.

The Mayor to appoint the fourth Sergeant at Mace.

CHAP. III.

the ancient custom of the said city. *And* that in case of the death or amotion of the Mayor, Bailiffs, or Sergeants at Mace, or of any or either of them, one or more other person or persons shall, within a convenient time after such death or amotion, be elected in manner and form as aforesaid, into the place or places of him or them so happening to die or be amoved, to continue in those offices respectively during the residue of the year then unexpired; and they shall also be sworn as is before appointed. *And further* we will and do, by these presents, for ourselves, our heirs and successors, grant to the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city, and to their successors; and we also do appoint and ordain that the nomination, election, and swearing of the Recorder and Common-Clerk shall and may from thenceforth for ever be done, made, and had, on the same days, in the same places, and at the same time, and in such manner and form as hath been heretofore by ancient custom in the said city in lawful manner used and approved."

In case of death, or amotion, others to be chosen.

Recorder and Town-Clerk, &c. to be chosen, &c. as usual, formerly.

"*And moreover*, we will and do, by these presents, for ourselves, our heirs and successors, grant to the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the city of *Exeter*, and to their successors, that if any person or persons of the Common Council, or of the rest of the Citizens and freemen of the said city, (whether he or they shall be residing or abiding within or without the city, or the county of the same city, the liberties or precincts thereof) who shall hereafter have been nominated or elected into the office of Mayor or Bailiff, or into the number of twenty-four of the Common Council, or into the office of Sheriff, Coroner, or Constable, or into any other inferior office or place of the said city, or any or either of them, (the office of Recorder and Common Clerk of the said city being excepted) and, having notice and *knowledge* of that election and nomination, shall *refuse* [ ]* that office, or those offices to which he or they so refusing shall have been elected and nominated, that then and so often it shall and may be lawful for the said twenty-four of the Common Council of the said city, for the time being, or the major part of them, to commit to the goal of the said city such person or persons so refusing to execute that office, or those offices, to which he or they shall have been so elected or nominated, there to remain until he or they shall be willing to execute such office or offices: *And* to *tax*, and to impose fines and amerciaments upon such recusant or recusants as shall in reason seem expedient to the said twenty-four of the Common Council, for the time being, or the major part of them; and that they may and shall detain *(in goal)* such person or persons so refusing, and committed, or to be committed, to the goal of the said city, for the time being,

Such as refuse to execute offices to which they are elected may be fined, imprisoned, and disfranchised, by the Common Council.

* It seems as if the word [*exercere*] to execute, was here omitted.

until he or they shall have fully paid, or caused to be paid, those fines or amerciaments to the public use of the said city; and, if it shall seem expedient to the said twenty-four of the Common Council of the said city for the time being, or to the major part of them, *to disfranchise*, expel, and amove him or them from the liberties and franchises of the said city. *And* also we do, for ourselves, our heirs and successors, constitute and ordain, by these presents, that, as well every person so as aforesaid refusing to undertake his office in form aforesaid, as every other person who shall disturb, hinder, or *oppose*, contrary to the tenor of these presents, these our ordinances concerning the election of the said officers, any or either of them, or shall, at the time of making such elections, be guilty, either by words or deeds, of any insolence, disturbance, or breach of peace, shall incur the penalty of the high displeasure of us, our heirs and successors."

Power to make Bye Laws.

"*We have moreover granted*, and, by these presents, for ourselves, our heirs and successors, do grant to the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city, and to their successors for ever, that if any customs, which have hitherto obtained and been used in the said city, are in any respect *difficult* or defective, or in any respect happening *de novo*, for which no remedy hath been before appointed, shall stand in need of amendment, then the said twenty-four of the Common Council of the said city for the time being, or the major part of them, (of whom we would the Mayor of the said city, for the time being, should be one) may, when and as often as it shall seem most expedient to them, appoint and ordain, by their common assent, a proper remedy, agreeable to good faith and reason, for the common advantage and government of the citizens and inhabitants of the same city, and others our subjects resorting to the same; so as such ordinances be profitable to us and to our people, and agreeable to good faith and reason as is aforesaid; and so as they are not repugnant to the royal prerogative of us, our heirs and successors, nor contrary to the laws and statutes of our kingdom of England then being in force."

Difficiles not clear and plain.

Recital of the letters patent, 29th Henry VIII. with respect to the Justices of the Peace and Gaol delivery.

"*And whereas* the Lord Henry the Eighth, late King of England, by his letters patent, sealed with the great seal of England, bearing date, at Westminster, on the twenty-third day of August, in the twenty-ninth year of his reign, granted, amongst other things, for himself, his heirs and successors, to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city, and their successors, *that* the Mayor and Recorder of the county of that city, and each of the other eight Aldermen who had borne, supported, or sustained, or then after might bear and support the burden of the Mayoralty of the said city, and their successors, as long as they should be Aldermen of the said city, should be

First assignment.

CHAP. III. Justices and Keepers of the Peace of the said late King, his heirs and successors, every where within the county of the said city, and the precincts and liberties thereof, as well within the liberties as without, in every place within the boundaries and limits of the county of the said city. *And* that they, the Mayor, Recorder, and eight other Aldermen of the said county of the city of Exeter, or three of them (of whom the Mayor and Recorder for the time being were, *by all means*, to be two) should from henceforth, for ever, be Justices of the said late King, his heirs and successors, there to enquire of, hear, and determine all and singular such and the like felonies, trespasses, and other misdeeds, from thenceforth to be committed and perpetrated within the same county of the city of Exeter, and the liberties thereof, happening as well within the liberties as without; and, in the same manner as the Justices of the said late King assigned to keep the peace of the county of Devon, could or might enquire of, hear, and determine, by virtue of the commission of the said King directed to them, and by force and authority of the laws of this kingdom of England. *And* that the same Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen, or three of them (of whom the said Mayor and Recorder for the time being were, by all means, to be two) should be Justices of the said late King, his heirs and successors, to deliver the gaol of the said county of the city of Exeter, from time to time, as often as there should be occasion, of the prisoners then being therein, according to the law and usage of the kingdom of England. *And* for the doing and performing divers other things, for the keeping the peace of the said late King, his heirs and successors, within the county of the said city, and the liberties thereof, as well within the liberties as without, in the said letters patent more fully and especially set forth; *so* that neither the Justices and Keepers of the Peace of the said late King, his heirs and successors, nor the Justices of him, his heirs and successors, assigned, or to be assigned, to enquire of, hear, and determine, divers felonies, trespasses, and other misdemeanors, nor the Sheriff, Coroner, Escheator, nor any other Justice of the said late King, his heirs and successors, of the said county of Devon, nor either of them, should *enter* within the county of the said city and the liberties thereof, on account of any thing, causes, complaints, matters, defaults, or *articles* belonging or appertaining to the Justices of the Peace of the said late King, his heirs and successors, or to the Justices of the said late King, his heirs and successors, assigned, or to be assigned, to enquire of, hear, and determine divers felonies, trespasses, and other misdemeanors; nor should they, or either of them, in any manner, on any account, *intrude* themselves there, in respect thereof, as by the said letters patent particularly and more fully appeareth. *And*

Second assignment.

Gaol delivery.

Justices of the county of Devon not to intermeddle.

whereas also it may happen, that the Mayor and Recorder of the said city, (who alone are appointed Justices of the quorum by the said letters patent) or one of them, being prevented by sickness or infirmity, or some other unavoidable cause, may not be able to attend the neccessary business of the said city, so that the rest of the Justices cannot proceed in holding the Sessions for the said city and county thereof, to the furtherance of the service of the public there in the absence of the said Mayor and Recorder, or one of them, to the delay of justice, or the impunity of offenders, *we*, (being willing to apply a remedy in this behalf, and that our Peace may be the better kept, and that all other *acts of justice* may be there in all future times performed duly and at their *proper seasons*, and may remain firm and established) of our special grace, and of our certain knowledge, and our own mere motion, *have granted*, and by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, do grant to the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city, and to their successors, *that* the Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen of the said city for the time being, in all times to come, may and shall be Justices, and every of them shall be a Justice, of us, our heirs and successors, for the preserving and keeping, and causing to be preserved and kept, the peace of us, our heirs and successors, within the city of Exeter, and the county of the city of Exeter, and within the limits, liberties, and precincts of the said city and county thereof, as well within the liberties as without. *And* also, for the *correcting*, [*offences against*] preserving, and keeping, and causing to be corrected, [*offences against*] the statutes concerning artificers' and labourers' weights and measures within the said city, and the county of the same city, and within the limits, liberties, and precincts aforesaid. *And* for the doing of all other things which do belong, or which hereafter shall belong, to be done by Justices assigned to keep the peace. *And* that the said Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen, so as aforesaid made and constituted, or to be made and constituted, *Justices* of the Peace, by virtue of these presents, or any three or more of them, (of whom we would that any [two] of the said Mayor, Recorder, and two *first and senior* Aldermen of the said city for the time being, should be two) may and shall appoint, hold, and keep the Sessions of the Peace, in the same manner and form as any other Justices assigned, or to be assigned, to keep the peace, or to hear and determine misdeeds or trespasses, in any counties of England, can, or may now or hereafter. *And* that they shall have full power and authority to enquire of all offences, *crimes*, defaults, and *articles* whatsoever, done, *promoted*, or committed, or hereafter to be done, promoted, or committed, within the said city and county of the said city, and within the liberties, limits, and precincts of

Recital of some inconveniences in the charter of Henry VIII.

Remedy.

The Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen to be Justices.

First assignment.

Labourers' Weights and Measures.

General words.

Second assignment Sessions.

Quorum, by seniority of election.

CHAP. III. them or either of them. *And* to do and execute all other things there, which Keepers and Justices of the Peace, in any county of our kingdom of England, can and may, or in future shall and may, enquire of, do, or execute, by the laws and statutes of the said kingdom of England, as Justices of the Peace, or as Justices assigned, or to be assigned, to hear and determine felonies, trespasses, and other misdemeanors committed within any county, or any city, town, or borough incorporate within this kingdom of England; *so* that no other Justice or Justices assigned, or to be assigned, to keep the peace of us, our heirs and successors, shall, by virtue or pretence of any commission, or of any association or otherwise, by any means, in any manner, intrude himself or themselves, to make, do, or order, any matter or things within the said city, or the county of the same city, or within the liberties, limits, or precincts thereof, which do or shall respect or belong to Justices of the Peace, so assigned to keep the peace, there."

Foreign Justices not to intrude.

Gaol delivery.

"*We will also*, and by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, do grant to the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city, and to their successors, that the Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen of the said city for the time being, or three or more of them (of whom we would that the Mayor, and Recorder, of the said city for the time being, should be two) may, from time to time, for ever, be Justices of us, our heirs and successors, to deliver our gaol of our said city of Exeter, and county of the city, of the prisoners being therein from time to time, according to the laws, customs, and statutes of our kingdom of England. *And* that the Sheriff and Coroner of the said county for the time being shall make return of all juries, inquisitions, pannels, attachments, and indentures taken, or hereafter to be taken, by them, before the said Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen of the said city for the time being, or any three or more of them (of whom we will that the Mayor and Recorder of the said city for the time being, in form aforesaid, should be two) from time to time, when and as often as they shall have *determined* to deliver the gaol of the prisoners being in the same gaol; *and* shall be attendant upon them in every thing concerning the delivery of the said gaol; *and* shall from time to time execute the precepts of them, the Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen of the said city for the time being, or of any such three or more of them as aforesaid, in the same manner and form as any Sheriffs or Coroners within our kingdom of England have been accustomed and ought to do, return, *attend upon*, or execute before Justices assigned, or to be assigned, to deliver the gaol in any other counties in the kingdom of us, our heirs and successors, in any manner whatsoever, by the laws and statutes of this our kingdom of

Quorum.

Sheriff and Coroner to be attendant on the Gaol delivery.

Shall execute Precepts.

England. *And that* the said Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen of the said city for the time being, or any or either of them, may, by themselves, or by their officers or deputies, take and arrest all murderers, *persons accused of homicide*, felons, thieves, and other malefactors found, or to be found, within the said city, suburbs, liberties, and precincts thereof, and within the county of the said city, and shall cause them to be safe kept there until they shall be delivered by due course of law; any other ordinance, decree, order, or custom in any wise notwithstanding; *so* that neither they, nor either of them, shall in any manner hereafter proceed to the determination of any treason, or misprision of treason, within the said city, liberties, or precincts thereof, or within the county of the said city, without the special mandate of us, our heirs and successors."

Power to commit murderers, felons, &c.

Not to determine treason, &c. without the royal mandate.

"*And moreover*, of our more abundant grace, and the support and *improvement* of our said city of Exeter, we have granted, and, by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, do grant to the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city, that they and their successors, from *henceforth* for ever, shall have all and all manner of fines forfeited, and to be forfeited, *redemptions*, issues, and forfeitures, as well real as not real, recognizances forfeited and to be forfeited, and all forfeitures and amerciaments whatsoever (although we, our heirs or successors, shall be parties) for trespasses, oppressions, extortions, deceits, conspiracies, concealments, regrating, forestalling, maintenance, ambidexters, *forgeries*, escapes, neglects, felonies, misprisions, and all crimes and misdemeanors whatsoever, and all fines pro licentia concordandi; and all and all manner of amerciaments, redemptions, fines, issues forfeited, real and not real, chattels of felons of themselves, of fugitives, and of those put in the exigent, deodands treasure-trove, *forfeited*, and all and all manner of forfeitures, as well by all writs, precepts, *bills*, and mandates of us, our heirs and successors, and every thing which may or ought to belong to us or our heirs, by the laws or statutes of this kingdom of England, arising, or hereafter to arise, by reason of any murders, *escapes of felons happening through negligence*, rapes of women, from all kinds of felonies, and from any other cause whatsoever, within the county of the said city, which are [prosecuted] either at the suit of us, our heirs and successors, or at the suit of another, or himself, or at the suit of another who [sues] as well for us, our heirs and successors, as for himself; and happening or arising of and from all and singular the subjects of us, our heirs and successors, abiding or residing within the county of the said city for the time being, in any courts or court of us, our heirs or successors; or before us, our heirs and successors, wheresoever we or they shall be in England; or before us, our

Grant of fines, &c.

CHAP. III. heirs and successors, in the chancery of us, our heirs and successors; or before the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer of us, our heirs and successors; or before the Barons of the Exchequer of us, our heirs and successors; or before the Justices of us, our heirs or successors, [*assigned*] *to hold pleas* before us, our heirs or successors; or before the Justices of us, our heirs or successors, of the *common bench;* or before the Steward and Marshall of the Household of us, our heirs or successors; or before the Coroner of the Household of us, our heirs or successors; or before the Clerk of the Market of us, our heirs or successors, for the time being; or before the Justices in Eyre of us, our heirs or successors, assigned to hear and determine the common pleas of our crown; or before the Justices of us, our heirs or successors, assigned, or to be assigned, to hear and determine felonies, treasons, murders, trespasses, oppressions, *excesses,* or any other grievances and misdemeanors, as well at the suit of us and our heirs, as of any other person or persons; [or before] our Justices assigned, or to be assigned, to take assizes, *juries,* certificates, and any other inquisitions, or to deliver a gaol; or [before] Justices or Keepers of the Peace of us, our heirs or successors, assigned, or to be assigned, to cause to be kept the statutes and ordinances concerning artificers, labourers, servants, workmen, victuallers, forestallers, and concerning weights and measures; *as before* any other Justices, Officers, and Ministers of us, our heirs or successors, as well in the presence as in the absence of us, our heirs or successors, wheresoever it shall happen that such subject of us, our heirs or successors, or either of them, within the said county of the said city of Exeter, *or their successors,* or either of them, shall be adjudged to make fines, to be amerced, to forfeit issues, to forfeit recognizances, [to incur] forfeitures on [account] of escapes of felons happening through negligence, murders, or other felonies, although we ourselves, our heirs or successors, or any of us, should be a party or parties *thereto;* and although any other person or persons shall have prosecuted for himself, or themselves; which said fines, issues, amerciaments, recognizances, forfeitures in respect of escapes of felons, murders, felonies, being forfeited, ought to belong to our heirs and successors, if they had not been granted by these presents to the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city, and their successors. *And* that it shall be lawful for the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city, and their successors, for ever, by the said Bailiffs and Sheriffs, or their Officers, to levy, collect, take, and have all the said fines, amerciaments, redemptions, issues, recognizances, forfeitures made, or to be made, and every thing which can or may belong to us, our heirs or successors, from the said murders, felonies,

King's Bench.

Common Pleas.

They who shall succeed them.

To the suit.

escapes, and other premises; and to put themselves in *possession* thereof, to the use and benefit of the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of our said city of Exeter, and their successors, without the challenge, impeachment, or hindrance of us, our heirs or successors; or of any Justices, Officers, or Ministers of us, our heirs or successors; or of any other Justices, Escheators, Sheriffs, Coroners, Mayors, Bailiffs, Constables, Ministers of us, our heirs or successors; although the said subjects of us, our heirs or successors, or either of them, their, or either of their, pledges, manucaptors, or bail, or either of them, shall *hold* [*lands*] of us, our heirs or successors, or of any other person or persons, within the said county of our said city of Exeter, or elsewhere; and although the said subjects of us, our heirs and successors, or any of them, shall be Bailiffs, Officers, or Ministers of us, our heirs and successors, or of the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty, and their successors, or of any other person; and also, although the said pledges, manucaptors, or bail, or either of them, shall dwell or inhabit within the said county of the city of Exeter, or out of the said county."

Persons fined, &c.

"*And moreover*, we have granted, and, by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, do grant to the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city, for ever, that neither the Treasurer, Chancellor, nor Barons of the Exchequer of us, our heirs or successors, nor any nor either of them, shall, for the future, *make* any process against any Justice of the Peace of us, our heirs or successors, of the said county of our city of Exeter, nor against any Justices of us, our heirs or successors, assigned, or to be assigned, to hear and determine divers felonies, trespasses, and other misdemeanors, committed, and to be committed, within the said county of the said city of Exeter, and the liberties thereof; nor against any or either of them, for the sending or delivering into the exchequer of us, our heirs or successors, any estreats of their sessions there made, or hereafter to be made: *but we will* and grant, by these presents, for ourselves, our heirs and successors, that all and singular such Justices of us, our heirs and successors, and every of them, shall for ever, by these presents, be exonerated *as against* us, our heirs and successors, from the delivery of such estreats of their sessions, to be made for the future as aforesaid."

No process from the Exchequer to return estreats.

Issue.

So far as we are concerned.

"*And whereas*, in our said city of Exeter, and the county of the said city, and in the parts adjacent, many merchants and clothiers do reside, *in respect* of whose daily commerce and traffic there, it would much conduce to the public good of the said city, and the better expediting [the business] of our subjects living in those parts, and resorting thither, in their mercantile contracts and agreements, that the Mayor, Bailiffs, and

Statute merchant.

The recovery of debts.

CHAP. III. Commonalty of the said city, and their successors, should have the power to recognizance between merchant and merchant, and to *make* executions thereupon, according to the statute De Mercatoribus, and the statute *lately* enacted at Acton-Burnel, in like manner as in other cities, boroughs, and towns corporate, of less eminence, hath been long since granted and established: *we*, graciously consenting to the common advantage of our said city of Exeter, and of the public good and benefit of our subjects, in those parts, *will*, and, by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, of our more abundant special grace, certain knowledge, and our own mere motion, do grant to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of our said city of Exeter, and to their successors, that the Mayor of the said city, for the time being, and the Clerk (to be appointed in manner and form hereafter in these presents expressed or mentioned, for the taking *and sealing* the recognizances of debt, according to the form of the statute De Mercatoribus, and of the statute lately made at Acton-Burnel) shall have, for ever, full power and authority to take and receive all recognizances, and to make executions thereupon, according to the form of the statute De Mercatoribus, and of the statute lately made at Acton-Burnel; and also, to do and execute all other things within the said city, and the county of the said city, which doth, or can, or may belong, by force of the said statutes, or of either of them, to any Mayor, Sheriff, Bailiff, or other Officer, and to any Clerk, or either of them, appointed *to* [*take*] *recognizances* of debts, according to the form of the said statutes, or of either of them, in any city or borough incorporate, within these our kingdom of England. *And that* the Mayor and Clerk for the time being may and shall have, and, by force of these presents, shall make, take, and use, one seal, of two pieces, (of which one shall be the greater part, and the other the lesser part) for the sealing of the said recognizances, to be hereafter acknowledged before them, according to the form of the said statute De Mercatoribus, and of the statute lately made at Acton-Burnel; which said seal shall be, and shall be called, from henceforth, for ever, the King's seal, for the sealing recognizances, to be taken within our said city of Exeter; of which said seal the greater part shall always remain in the custody of the Mayor of the said city, for the time being, and the other part of the said seal shall be and remain always in the hands and custody of the Clerk, for the time being, deputed and appointed to write and enroll the said recognizances, according to the intent of these our letters patent. *And that* the Common Clerk of the said city, for the time being, may and shall be, as long as he shall continue in that office, the Clerk of us, our heirs and successors, to take, write, and enroll the recognizances of debts,

The Mayor and Clerk.

The seal for the recognizances

Common Clerk to be Clerk of the recognizances.

according to the form of the said statutes, or either of them, within the city and the county of the said city, and the liberties, limits, and precincts thereof; and to preserve and keep the rolls, memorandums, and records thereof; and to keep the lesser piece of the said seal; and to do and execute all other things which belong to any Clerk appointed [*to take*] recognizances of debts, to do and execute according to the form of the said statutes, or either of them."

The appointment.

"*And we* do, for us, our heirs and successors, make, ordain, and constitute, and, by these presents, without any writ to be obtained in this behalf, and without any other election to be made, the said Common Clerk of the said city, the Clerk of us, our heirs and successors, to take, write, and enroll the recognizances of debts within the said city, according to the form of the said statutes, and either of them, and to keep the lesser part of the said seal; and, moreover, to do and execute all other things which belong to any Clerk appointed to *take* recognizances of debts, to do and execute according to the form of the said statutes, or either of them."

Feoffees to charitable uses may grant the lands to the twenty-four

"*And whereas*, also, divers lands, tenements, and hereditaments, have been heretofore given and granted to certain feoffees and trustees, for the fulfilling several good and pious uses within the said city, and county of the said city, which said feoffees desire to place such lands, tenements, and hereditaments, in the hands of the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of our said city of Exeter, for the better security of the said lands, tenements, and hereditaments, and for the better disposing and governing the same, according to the laudable intention of the first and original donors thereof, *we*, graciously approving such good desires, of our especial grace, and of our certain knowledge, and of our own mere motion, have given, granted, and, by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, *do* give and grant to the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city, and to their successors, that it shall and may be lawful for all and singular such feoffees of any manors, lands, tenements, tithes, rents, or hereditaments, to fulfil any good or pious use within the said city, or county of the said city, being seized of an estate of inheritance therein, to give, grant, and alien the same manors, lands, tenements, and other the premises of the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty to the said city, and their successors: *and* also, that it shall and may be lawful for the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty, of the said city to have, require, and take to them, and their successors, for ever, the said manors, lands, tenements, tithes, rents, or hereditaments, from the said feoffees, and the survivors of them, the statutes concerning the not putting lands and tenements in mortmain, or any other statute

Who may take them,

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or provision, law, restraint, or custom, to the contrary thereof notwithstanding. *Provided always*, that the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city, and their successors, shall be bound to convert and dispose of all and singular the said manors, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, so granted to them, as aforesaid, by virtue of these presents, and also the issues and rents proceeding from time to time therefrom, to such and the same pious and public uses to which the said manors, lands, tenements, and hereditaments respectively were first and originally given and granted, according to the will and true intention of the donors of the said manors, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, declared respectively *in their writings*, and according to the form of the statutes of this our kingdom of England, in this behalf made and provided, or hereafter to be made and provided, anything in these presents to the contrary thereof notwithstanding."

To the same uses.

Their deeds of gift, wills, &c.

Power to purchase lands not exceeding 100*l.* per ann. besides those they already had

"*And furthermore*, know ye, that we, to the intent that the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city, from time to time, be the better enabled to sustain and support the public charges and expences of the said city, of our special grace, and of our certain knowledge, and own mere motion, have given and granted, and, by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, *do give* and grant to the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city, and their successors, special licence, and free and lawful power, capacity, or authority, of having, acquiring, and taking, to them, and their successors, for ever, as well from us, our heirs and successors, as from any other the subjects and liege people of us, our heirs and successors, or of any other person whomsoever, any manors, messuages, tenements, rectories, tithes, rents, *reservations*, services, and other possessions and hereditaments, (which are not held of us, our heirs and successors, in capite, nor by Knight's service, nor of any other person or persons not consenting by Knight's service) not exceeding in the whole the yearly value of one hundred pounds, over and above all charges and reprisals; and besides all manors, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, heretofore granted to the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty, or to their predecessors, by any or either of our ancestors or predecessors, late Kings or Queens of England; and besides all other lands, tenements, and hereditaments, which they or their predecessors have heretofore purchased, or which they or their successors can or may hereafter purchase, by virtue, force, or pretence of any other charters or letters patent, [granted] by any of our ancestors or predecessors; the said statutes concerning the not putting lands and tenements in mortmain, or any other statute, act, provision, law, restriction, or custom to the contrary thereof, in anywise notwithstanding:

wherefore we will, and, by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, do give and grant to every and any the subject and subjects of us, our heirs and successors, that they, any or either of them, may and shall have power to give, grant, sell, *devise*, or alien, to the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city, and to their successors, any manors, messuages, lands, tenements, rectories, tithes, rents, reservations, services, and other possessions and hereditaments, which are not holden of us, our heirs and successors, in capite, or by Knight's service, or of any other person or persons not consenting by Knight's service; so that the said manors, messuages, lands, tenements, and other hereditaments, so to be given, granted, devised, or alienated, do not exceed in the whole the clear yearly value of one hundred pounds over and above all charges and reprisals; and besides the said manors, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, so as aforesaid granted, purchased, or to be purchased, the said statutes concerning the not putting lands and tenements in mortmain, or any other statute, act, ordinance, law, provision, or custom, to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding."

Confirmation of all former charters, liberties, and franchises.

"*And moreover*, we will, and, by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, do grant to the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of our said city of Exeter, and their successors, that the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city, and their successors, may, for ever hereafter, have and hold all and all manner of liberties, authorities, exemptions, manors, lands, tenements, fines, forfeitures, redemptions, issues, and other hereditaments, privileges, *quittances*, jurisdictions, and franchises, which are mentioned to have been granted by any letters patent, of any of our ancestors or predecessors, to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty *of the county* of the city of Exeter, or which were granted ever heretofore to the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city, by any name, or by any incorporation, or by pretext of any incorporation, or which the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city of Exeter now have or hold, or which they have used and enjoyed, or ought to have, hold, use, or enjoy, of any estate of inheritance, by reason or pretext of any charters or letters patent, in any manner heretofore made, granted, or confirmed, by any of our ancestors or predecessors, Kings or Queens of England, or by any other lawful method, right, title, custom, usage, or prescription heretofore lawfully used, had, or accustomed; *although* the same, any or either of them, have or hath been heretofore not used, or abused, or ill used, or discontinued. And although the same, any or either of them, are or have been forfeited or lost, *to have, hold*, and enjoy [the same,] to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city, and their

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successors for ever; *and yielding* and paying therefore to us, our heirs and successors, every year, so many, so much, such, the same, and the like rents, services, sums of money, and demands whatsoever, [*as*] have been accustomed to be rendered and paid for the same to us heretofore, or as they ought to yield or pay: *wherefore* we will, and, by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, firmly enjoin and command, that the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of our said city of Exeter, and their successors, may have, hold, use, and enjoy, and may and shall be able fully and absolutely to have, hold, use, and enjoy, for ever, all liberties, free customs, authorities, jurisdictions, *quittances* aforesaid, and other the premises, according to the tenor and effect of these our letters patent, without the *let* or impediment of us, or any of our heirs and successors; *willing* that the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city, and their successors, or any or either of them, should not be *hindered*, molested, harrassed, or aggrieved, or in any respect disturbed by us, or by our heirs or successors, by reason of the premises, or of either of them; *willing*, and, by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, commanding and charging, as well the Treasurer, Chancellor, and Barons of the Exchequer of us, our heirs and successors, as our Attorney-General for the time being, and every of them, and all other Officers and Ministers of us, our heirs and successors, that neither they, nor any, nor either of them, shall sue out or *continue*, or cause to be sued out or continued, any writ or summons of quo warranto, or any other writ or process whatsoever, against the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city, or any or either of them, for any causes, things, or matters, offences, claims, or usurpations, or any of them, *due from*, claimed, attempted, used, had, or usurped, by them or any of them, before the day of making these presents; *willing* also, that the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city, or either of them, should by no means be molested or charged by any person or persons, Justices, Officers, or Ministers aforesaid, in or about any dues, usages, claims, usurpations, or abuse of any other liberties, franchises, or jurisdictions, before the day of making these our letters patent, nor be compelled to answer *for these things or either of them*. *Notwithstanding* that express mention is not made in these presents of the true annual value of the certainty of the premises, or of either of them, or any gifts or grants heretofore made by us, or by any of our ancestors or predecessors, to the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty; or any statute, act, ordinance, provision, proclamation, or restriction heretofore had, made, published, ordained, or provided, or any other thing, cause, or matter whatsoever, to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding."

"*In testimony* whereof, we have caused these our letters to be made patent. *Witness myself*, at Westminster, the seventeenth day of December, in the third year of our reign."

"By writ of privy seal." "WOLSELEY."

"Fine assessed at XX. marks."

"THO. COVENTRY."

A. D. 1629. The town of *Cambridge* being infected by the plague, a considerable sum of money was collected by voluntary contribution, in this city, and sent to the relief of the poor of that town.

1630. In a scarcity the Mayor imports corn from abroad. A scarcity of corn being likely to ensue, from the extreme wetness of the summer, the Mayor, this year, *Thomas Flaye, Esq.* imported a large quantity from abroad, which, with a large quantity of fuel, he laid up in storehouses, and retailed to the poor, in the ensuing winter, at prime cost, to their great relief, and without any profit to himself; a laudable example to succeeding Magistrates.

1631. *Nicholas Vaughan, Gent.* was elected Muster Master of this city and county, with a pension of 6*l.* per annum.*

1632. Free School at St. John's Hospital founded by the Mayor and Chamber. Part of *St. John's Hospital* was converted into a free-school, (for instructing the youth of this city in classical learning) at the expence of the Mayor and Chamber, who also built a convenient dwelling-house, adjoining the said school, for the master, and endowed the same with an annual salary of 30*l.* a year for the master and 10*l.* for an usher.†

1634. A new cap of maintenance, and scabbard for the sword, of velvet, richly embroidered with gold, were ordered to be made, and worn by the sword-bearer.

1636. St. Bartholomew's burying ground consecrated, &c. The new burying ground, dedicated to *St. Bartholomew*, (the land of which had been given by the Chamber) was enclosed with walls, at the joint expence of the church and city, and consecrated by *Bishop Hall*, on the 24th of August, being *St. Bartholomew's* day.

1639. The plague raging in *Taunton*, the sum of 185*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.* was collected by voluntary contributions of the inhabitants of this city, and sent to relieve the poor of that town.

The Mayor this year, *Robert Walker, Esq.* and *Simon Snow, Esq.* were elected Citizens to serve in the ensuing Parliament. ‡

* This gentleman, in the dissension which soon after broke out between the King and Parliament, endeavouring to seize some arms belonging to the rebels, was slain by a shot from a window, at *Dunsford*, in the county of *Devon*; and interred, with military honours, in St. Bartholomew's burying ground.

† The donations of several benefactors towards this foundation, and other pious uses, will be given in their respective places in the descriptive part of this work.

‡ There seems to be some mistake in the date of this return, (King Charles called this parliament in 1640) unless the two representatives for this city were removed by death, and others chosen in their room.

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A. D. 1642.

The war breaks out between the King and Parliament.

The misunderstanding which had for a long time subsisted between the King and his Parliament now unhappily broke out into an open war. The occasion of these dissensions have been so faithfully related by *Lord Clarendon*, and other historians, that it would be needless to repeat them here. In the account of this war I shall only particularize such events as most materially relate to the share which the city of *Exeter* and its neighbourhood had in it, and leave the reader to the above mentioned authors for further information.

The Militia taken out of the King's hands.

New Lord-Lieutenants appointed by the Parliament.

On the 2nd of March both houses of Parliament (by an act of their own) wrested the power of ordering the Militia* out of the King's hands; and appointed such Lord-Lieutenants of the several counties as were considered their friends, in opposition to those who were legally appointed by the King: accordingly *Francis*, Earl of *Bedford*, was sent down by them as Lord-Lieutenant of the county of *Devon*, and city of *Exeter*, with full power to assemble and regulate the Militia: he, therefore, on his arrival, ordered them to assemble at *Exeter*, where he cashiered those officers who were suspected of being friends to the royal cause, and filled their places with such as he could depend upon.

The Earl garrisons Exeter for the Parliament; and mounts 25 pieces of cannon on the city walls.

The Earl having thus got possession of *Exeter*, disarmed the loyal part of the Citizens, made additions to the fortifications, mounted twenty-five pieces of cannon on the walls, and garrisoned it for the Parliament, to the great discontent of, by far, the major part of the inhabitants, who, being thus surprised, were obliged to submit patiently to the exactions and outrages of the republican soldiers.

1643.

Episcopacy abolished by the Parliament.

The Parliament next proceeded to abolish Episcopacy, as too much resembling the hierarchy of the church of *Rome;* and such of the clergy whose consciences would not suffer them to comply with such new regulations were ejected from their livings, and their places filled with presbyterian or independent preachers.†

The estates of the Royalists sequestered.

They next made an order for sequestrating the estates of the Royalists; another for levying a tax throughout *England* and *Wales*, for the support of their armies; and appointed Commissioners in the several counties, cities, &c.

Commissioners.

The Commissioners appointed for the county of *Devon* were *Sir Peter Prideaux, Sir George Chudleigh, Sir John Pole, Sir John Northcote, Sir Edmund Powell, Sir Samuel Rolle, Sir Shilston Calmady, Sir Nicholas Martin, Sir Francis Drake, Sir John Davie, Baronets; Robert Savery, Henry Walrond, John Worthy, Hugh Fortescue, Arthur Upton*, and

* In those days termed Trained-bands.

† The whole of the clergy belonging to Exeter Cathedral, and thirteen of the parochial ministers, were thus dispossessed of their livings.

George Trowbridge, Esquires; and, for the city of *Exeter*, *Christopher Clarke, Esq.* Mayor; *Richard Saunders, Thomas Crossing, Adam Bennet, Walter White, John Hakewill, Esquires,* Aldermen; and *James Gould, Esq.* Sheriff.

Commissioners empowered to seize horses, arms, &c. for the use of the Parliament army.

These Commissioners were invested with full power of demanding and seizing horses, arms, provisions, money, plate, and whatsoever they might judge necessary for the service of the Parliament army: on these seizures they were to set such rates and value as they thought proper, to be paid on the public faith (which never was fulfilled) at the conclusion of the war.

The Earl of Stamford left governor of Exeter.

The Earl of *Bedford*, having settled his business at *Exeter*, left the Earl of *Stamford* governor of it, with a sufficient garrison to overawe the Citizens and the neighbouring country, and set out to join the Parliament army under the command of the Earl of *Essex*.

The war had now spread itself throughout the whole kingdom; parties were in arms in most of the counties, and many skirmishes and battles had been fought, with various success: in the west the Parliament committee were in possession of the whole county of *Devon* and part of *Cornwall*.

An army of Royalists formed in Cornwall.

At this time the Marquis of *Hertford*, having transported himself from *Wales* into the latter county, with a small body of Royalists, was joined by *Sir Ralph Hopton*, with about 150 horse, and soon after by *Sir Bevil Greenville* and other gentlemen; when, setting up the royal standard, the gentry and inhabitants of that loyal county resorting to them in great numbers, a considerable army was soon formed; they then attacked the Parliament forces on *Braddock Down*, near *Leskeard*, and defeated them, taking all their cannon, most of their colours, and 1250 prisoners, with very little loss on the King's side.

The Republican army defeated by the Royalists.

The Earl of Stamford retreats to Exeter.

Soon after this victory the Royalists advanced to *Tavistock*, where the Earl of *Stamford* was endeavouring to collect the scattered remains of the defeated army; but on the approach of the Royalists he retreated, with what forces he could collect, to *Exeter*.

Cessation of arms between the counties of Devon and Cornwall.

The Parliament having passed the ordinance for levying a new tax, by which no less a sum than £33,936 was to be collected weekly throughout the kingdom, and delivered to their Commissioners, proposed (in order to secure the payment of that part allotted to the county of *Devon*, and which county was very rich, populous, and entirely under their subjection) a cessation of arms between the two counties of *Devon* and *Cornwall;* and this proposal being agreed to, the Royalists retired into the latter county.

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The Republicans break the treaty, and attempt to surprise Launceston

This treaty, although ratified by the most solemn oaths and obligations, was no longer adhered to by the Republicans than while it served their purpose; for after collecting a large sum of money, (both from their friends and enemies) and recruiting their forces, their Major General, *James Chudleigh*, attempted, at the head of a large party of both horse and foot, to surprise *Launceston*, the head quarters of the Royalists; but, after a sharp conflict, being repulsed, he retreated to *Oakhampton*.

The Earl of Stamford marches from Exeter against the Royalists.

About the middle of May the Earl of *Stamford*, having recruited his forces, marched from *Exeter* against the Royalists; his army consisted of 1,400 horse and 5,400 foot, with thirteen pieces of brass cannon, one mortar, and a large magazine of ammunition and povisions. The Royalists, though not consisting of half that number, and in great want of ammunition and stores, were determined to give them battle, and accordingly made every preparation. During this the Earl had detached *Sir George Chudleigh* on an attempt to surprise the Sheriff of *Cornwall* and some other gentlemen, who were assembled at *Bodmin*. The Royalists having obtained intelligence of his march thought it a fair opportunity of attacking the enemies camp, while their horse were separated from them.

Sir George Chudleigh dispatched to surprise the Sheriff of Cornwall

Battle of Stratton.

Reduced as the Royalists were, even to the bare subsistence of a biscuit per man, for a whole day, they marched with great resolution, and attacked the enemies camp at *Stratton*, which, after a bloody and well disputed battle, they forced, and gained a complete victory.

The Republicans defeated, with the loss of all their artillery, &c.

In this battle a great number of the Republicans were slain; *Major-General Chudleigh*, with 30 other officers, and 1,700 men taken prisoners; and all their artillery, stores, tents, and baggage, with seventy barrels of gunpowder, and a great quantity of provisions, fell into the hands of the conquerors.

Earl of Stamford and Sir George Chudleigh seek refuge in Exeter. Royalists march into Devon.

The Earl of *Stamford* fled to *Exeter*, (being the first to carry the news of his defeat to his Republican party in that city, which threw them into the greatest consternation) and was soon after followed by *Sir George Chudleigh*. The conquerors having solemnly returned thanks to God, in the field of battle, for their signal victory, refreshed themselves a day and a night in the camp, on the spoil of the enemy, and then marched into *Devonshire*, intending to attack either *Exeter* or *Plymouth*, the two most considerable garrisons in that county. But receiving an express from the King, informing them that he had sent his nephew, Prince *Maurice*, and the Marquis of *Hertford*, with a large body of horse, to reinforce their army, and that the Parliament designed to send *Sir William Waller*,

with a fresh army, into the west, the Royalists (leaving a small party of horse and foot at *Saltash*, to defend the borders of *Cornwall*) marched, by *Exeter*, to *Tiverton*, where they surprised a Republican regiment, commanded by *Colonel Ware*: they then proceeded to *Chard*, where they were joined by Prince *Maurice* and the Marquis of *Hertford*.

Skirmish at Tiverton. Joined by Prince Maurice at Chard.

The greatest part of the county of *Devon* was still in the hands of the Parliament forces; and the Royalists had not a single garrison throughout the whole county, except *Sir John Ackland's* house, at *Columb-John*, which he had fortified and garrisoned with a small but resolute band: this band made frequent incursions, even to the gates of *Exeter*, and kept that garrison in continual alarm.

Sir John Ackland garrisons his house, at Columb-John, for the King.

Prince *Maurice* then sent *Sir John Berkley* back into that county, with *Colonel Howard's* regiment of horse; and he, being joined by great numbers of gentlemen, and other well affected persons in the King's cause, soon formed a body of troops sufficient, not only for keeping the disaffected in awe, but for blockading several of the Parliament garrisons, particularly that of *Exeter*, extending their quarters within a mile, and fixing guards even in the sight of the gates of the city.

Royalists blockade Exeter.

The Earl of *Stamford*, expecting to be besieged, ordered all the houses in the suburbs, near the city walls, to be demolished; and the trees on *Northernhay* and *Southernhay* (some of which were upwards of one hundred years growth) to be felled, and thus laid open all the approaches to the city walls, and made every preparation for a vigorous defence.

The Governor orders all the houses near the city walls to be pulled down, and the trees to be felled.

Prince *Maurice*, after taking *Dorchester*, marched for *Exeter*, and summoned the Governor to an immediate surrender; this being refused, he blocked up all the avenues to the city and commenced a close siege. The Parliament being informed of the siege of *Exeter*, ordered the Earl of *Warwick*, who commanded their fleet, to harass the coast of *Devon*, thinking thereby to force the Royalists to abandon their attempt; but *Sir John Berkley* being sent with all the horse to watch their motions, the Earl seeing no likelihood of making good his landing, sailed for the mouth of the *Exe*, hoping, by means of his smaller vessels getting up the river, thereby to raise the siege, or throw in succours of relief.

Prince Maurice lays siege to Exeter.

The Earl of Warwick attempts to raise the siege by his fleet.

Accordingly, with a flood tide and a fair wind, they proceeded up the river; but *Sir John Berkley*, by forced marches from *Totnes*, coming time enough to take possession of some points of land which commanded the channel, and being supplied with some cannon from the Prince's army, so effectually

CHAP. III.

But without success and with the loss of 3 of his ships.

opposed their passage, that, after a warm action of nearly four hours, they gave up their attempt, and endeavoured to retreat, leaving three of their ships, (which had grounded by reason of the tide's failing) one of which was burnt, and the other two were taken possession of by the Royalists. While the siege of *Exeter* was thus continuing, the garrison of *Plymouth*, in conjunction with the inhabitants of the North of *Devon*, (who were notoriously disaffected) assembled what forces they could, in order to force the Royalists to withdraw the siege. On notice of this, *Sir John Berkley* sent *Colonel Digby*, with a party of horse and foot, to *Torrington;* and the Republicans having assembled at *Bideford*, to the number of about 1200 foot and 300 horse, under the command of *Colonel Bennet*, proceeded to attack the Royalists at *Torrington:* but they, having notice of their coming, marched from the town to meet them; and though greatly inferior in numbers, after a short action entirely defeated them, killing 200 on the spot, and in the pursuit taking 200 prisoners. *Colonel Digby* immediately proceeded to *Bideford*, which, with *Barnstaple* and *Appledore*, surrendered on the first summons, and were taken possession of by the Royalists.

The Republican army assemble at Bideford.

Republicans defeated at Torrington.

Bideford, Barnstaple, and Appledore taken.

Exeter surrenders to the King's troops, and Sir John Berkley appointed governor.

The garrison of *Exeter*, thus deprived of all hopes of relief, surrendered, on articles, on the 4th of September; and on the King's troops taking possession, *Sir John Berkley* was appointed governor, to the great joy of the major part of the Citizens, who were firmly attached to the royal cause.

A. D. 1644.

The Queen retires to Exeter as a place of more safety and lodges at Bedford-house.

The King, Queen, and family, who had for some time resided at *Oxford*, being apprehensive that that city would be besieged by the Parliament army, under the command of the Earl of *Essex;* and the Queen being then pregnant, she was removed, at her own request, to *Exeter*, as a place of greater security: she was received with great acclamations of joy by the garrison and loyal Citizens, who conducted her to *Bedford-house*, which had been fitted up for her reception. Soon after the Queen's arrival in *Exeter* (16th June) she was delivered of a Princess, who was baptized in the Cathedral, by the name of *Henrietta Maria:* the sponsors were *Sir John Berkley*, *Lady Poulett*, and *Lady Dalkeith;* on this occasion a handsome font was erected in the body of the church, under a rich canopy of state, and *Doctor Burnell*, Chancellor of the church, performed the ceremony.*

The Queen delivered of a Princess.

The young Princess baptized.

* This Princess, for her beauty and personal accomplishments, was esteemed the handsomest in Christendom. She was afterwards married to the Duke of *Orleans*, (brother to the French King) but did not long survive her marriage.

The Earl of *Essex* proceeded rapidly towards *Devonshire*, at the head of a powerful army. This put the Queen in fear of her personal safety, and she removed to *Falmouth*, where she embarked for *France*, and safely arrived, escaping the vigilance of the Republican cruisers that were purposely sent to intercept her. Before her departure from *Exeter* she was presented, in the name of the Citizens, with a purse containing £200 in gold, which she most gratefully received.

The Queen goes to Falmouth, and thence escapes to France.

The Earl of *Essex* made no attempt on *Exeter*, but proceeded to *Tiverton*, which surrendered to him after a slight defence. Among the prisoners taken there was a *Captain Howard*, a near relation to the Duke of *Norfolk;* who, being charged with desertion from the Parliament army, was tried by a court martial, condemned, and executed. *Sir John Berkley*, being informed of this circumstance, immediately ordered that *Turpin*, a sea Captain, who had been taken prisoner in one of the ships that attempted the relief of *Exeter*, and who had deserted from the Royalists, to be executed in a similar manner.*

Earl of Essex at Tiverton. Captain Howard executed by order of the Earl of Essex. Cap. Turpin executed by order of Sir John Berkley.

The Earl of *Essex* continued at *Tiverton*, until he received advice of the King's following him with a large army; and finding no possibility of retreating eastward, he marched into *Cornwall*. His Majesty, after defeating several rebels in his route, came to *Exeter*, accompanied by the Prince of *Wales*, and a great number of noblemen and gentlemen who had continued stedfast in their loyalty. At his entrance into the city, he was received by the Mayor and Citizens with every token of respect and congratulation. His Majesty took his residence at *Bedford-house;* the Prince, at the *Deanry;* and the noblemen and others were lodged in the houses of the principal Citizens, who entertained them with the greatest hospitality. During the King's stay at *Exeter* a negociation between him and the Earl of *Essex* was attempted; but the Earl's demands running very high, it proved unsuccessful. Before his Majesty departed the Citizens presented him with £500 in gold, and the Prince with £100. The King proved successful in his expedition into *Cornwall;* and having defeated the Earl of *Essex*, and dispersed his army, returned in triumph to *Exeter*, where he staid but one night, and then proceeded to *Oxford*.

The King comes to Exeter in pursuit of the Earl of Essex.

The Citizens make a present of £500 to the King, and £100 to the Prince.

The King being defeated at the fatal battle of *Naseby*, by *Cromwell*, his affairs began to decline. *General Fairfax* was sent, by the Parliament, with an army into the west; and after

A. D. 1645.

* A retaliation unjustifiable by the dictates of humanity.

CHAP. III.

Tiverton taken by Fairfax.

taking *Bridgewater*, he rapidly reduced most of the King's garrisons in his march; took *Tiverton* by assault, and made the garrison, which consisted of about 300 men, prisoners; among whom was a *Major Sadler*, formerly an officer in the Parliament army; who, deserting it, had entered into the King's service, and being tried for this by a court martial, he was condemned to die: but making some overtures to *Fairfax*, was released, and came to *Exeter*, where he pretended he had broke from his prison: he was however suspected by the Royalists, and being detected in a traitorous correspondence, he was tried and convicted, and was shot on *Southernhay*.

Major Sadler executed on Southernhay.

Fairfax places garrisons in the villages, &c. round Exeter.

It was now the depth of winter; and *Fairfax*, not thinking it proper to besiege *Exeter*, contented himself with blocking up all the avenues to the city, by placing parties of his troops in the different villages and gentlemen's seats in its vicinity, in order to prevent any intercourse between the garrison and the neighbouring country: particularly at *Bishop's Clist*, *Stoke Canon*, and *Poltimore-house*. He then proceeded to *Ottery St. Mary*, where he fixed his head quarters; and a sickness breaking out among his troops, he rested for some time in that town.

A. D. 1646.

Sir Hardress Waller takes Crediton.

During his stay at *Ottery*, he detached *Sir Hardress Waller* to seize *Crediton;* and other parties to take possession of, and garrison, *Powderham Castle; Sir George Chudleigh's* house, at *Ashton; Lord Chichester's* and *Mr. Davy's*, at *Canonsleigh;* which so straitened the garrison of *Exeter* that they were reduced to the greatest distress for want of provisions.

A party of the Royalists surprised at Bovey Tracey.

Fairfax, having ordered his army to rendezvous between *Crediton* and *Oakhampton*, sent *Lieutenant-General Cromwell* to *Bovey Tracey*, where he surprised a party of Royalists, under the command of *Lord Wentworth;* took most of the men prisoners, 400 horses, and seven stand of colours.

Dartmouth taken by storm.

Fairfax now proceeded to *Dartmouth*, and taking it by storm, he raised the siege of *Plymouth*, and then marched to *Torrington*, where the Royalists had assembled the greatest part of their forces, in order to endeavour to raise the blockade of *Exeter*. On the 14th of February the armies came to a general action, which was fought with great inveteracy and slaughter on both sides, and ended in the total defeat of the Royalists.

Battle at Torrington.

Torrington Church blown up.

Soon after the conclusion of the battle a melancholy scene ensued: the Royalists who had been taken prisoners were crowded together in *Torrington Church*, in which were nearly eighty barrels of gunpowder; these, by some unknown means,

took fire and blew up, with a dreadful explosion, which not only destroyed the unfortunate prisoners, but many of the captors, demolished the church, and laid in ruins great part of the town.

The Royalists again defeated in Cornwall.

Fairfax pursued his victory and immediately marched into *Cornwall*, where he again defeated *Lord Hopton*, (who had collected together the dispersed Royalists) and in a short time reduced the whole counties of *Devon* and *Cornwall* (except the city of *Exeter*) to the obedience of the Parliament. After this he directed his march towards *Exeter*, and closely invested it; and sent *Sir Hardress Waller* to besiege the fort at *Exmouth*, which very soon surrendered.

Sir Hardress Waller takes Exmouth.

Exeter surrendered to Fairfax upon articles.

The governor and garrison of *Exeter* being in great want of provisions, and seeing no hopes of relief, agreed to a truce of six days; at the expiration of which they surrendered on articles: the principal of these articles were, that the garrison (except the officers, who were to retain their swords) should lay down their arms, and have liberty to depart to their own homes, or to the nearest garrison belonging to the King, without any hurt or molestation from the Parliament troops; that the Citizens should not be plundered, and that they should enjoy the liberty of choosing their own magistrates, and all such other privileges of which they were possessed before the war; and that the Princess *Henrietta*, her governess, and household, should have liberty to pass, with their plate, money, goods, &c. to any place in *England* or *Wales*, at her desire, in twenty days. The articles of capitulation for the surrender of the city and castle were executed and signed at *Poltimore-house*.

Articles of surrender.

The Parliament army take possession, break the articles, displace the Receiver, and turn out the church ministers, and greatly damage the cathedral.

The Parliament forces took possession of the city and castle on the 9th of April; and, in violation of the articles which had been agreed to, they made the Citizens suffer severely for the part they had taken in behalf of their King and constitution: they demanded a large sum of money, by way of contribution, to preserve them from being plundered; free quarters for a large body of troops; and displaced the city Receiver, who had become obnoxious to them by his loyalty. They again ejected from their cures all the episcopal ministers, and took possession of the houses of the Bishop, Dean, and other residentiaries.

The cathedral they divided into two parts; one for a Presbyterian and the other for an Independent meeting, separating the choir from the nave by erecting a wall, where the screen which supports the organ now stands. The beautifully painted glass of the windows they beat to pieces as objects of Romish superstition: they did the same by the sepulchral monuments, and other sculptures, which time and the Reformation had spared;

CHAP. III.

The Bishop's throne taken down as useless.

the Bishop's throne they ordered to be taken down as useless ;* and the soldiers wantonly fired their muskets at the altar-piece, (the marks of the bullets are still visible ;) in short, they committed the most horrid outrages in this venerable and ancient house of God, not sparing even the dead, whose sepulchres they ransacked, and scattered their bones for the sake of the leaden coffins.

The Chapter-house made a stable ; the Bishop's Palace, &c. barracks. 13 of the parish churches exposed for sale by the crier.

The Chapter-house they turned into a stable for the troopers' horses; and the Bishop's Palace, Deanry, and Canons' houses, into barracks for soldiers.

The parish churches being deprived of their pastors, and the incomes reduced, by the smallness of the congregations, none of the dissenting ministers would accept of the cures, and thirteen of them were exposed for sale by the common crier.

Fairfax, having thus reduced the counties of *Devon* and *Cornwall*, marched with his army to *Oxford;* leaving *Lieutenant-General Hammond* governor of *Exeter*, with a garrison of three regiments of foot.

A. D. 1648.

John Lovering being appointed Receiver of this city refused to be sworn, for which he was fined £100; and *Nicholas Brooking* was, three months after, appointed in his room.

1649. The King takes refuge with the Scotch army, which deliver him to the Parliament.

On *General Fairfax* approaching *Oxford*, the King left that city; but not knowing where to go for safety he repaired to the *Scotch* army, (then in *England*) on a supposition that they would protect him. The *Scots* paid him at first all the honours due to Majesty, but afterwards basely delivered him to the Parliament Commissioners, who imprisoned him for a considerable time in different places.

The King beheaded.

After this the House of Commons (composed entirely of Independents) established a pretended high court of justice, by which the King was condemned to be beheaded; and this sentence was executed on January 30th, 1649.†

The Mayor refuses to receive the Parliament proclamation, and pays no respect to the Judges.

Soon after the death of the King proclamations were sent, by the assumed government, to *James Gould, Esquire*, the then Mayor of this city, which he refused to receive or publish, and (the messenger having left them in his house) threw them out of his door: when the Judges of assize came on their circuit he likewise slighted them, nor would he acknowledge their power; for this they fined him £200, and sued him in the

* Some worthy gentlemen took care of the materials of the throne, and had them privately conveyed to a place of security, where they remained until the Restoration, when they were replaced, with happily very little damage. The Dean of Exeter, Dr. William Peterson, was maintained by Sir William Courtenay, at Powderham Castle, during the whole time of the usurpation.

† Impartiality obliges us to observe that it was neither the Scotch, nor the Presbyterians, nor the Parliament, who put the King to death; but the Independents, who hated them all.

Court of Exchequer for the sum; but he defended himself so well that the Attorney-General entered at length a *noli prosequi* against him. The next summer assizes the Judges executed their commission at *Tiverton*, (which had never been done before, nor has since) to revenge in some manner on the Citizens the behaviour of their Mayor. This gentleman, though low in stature, was of undaunted courage and resolution.

The Assizes held at Tiverton.

A melancholy accident happened about this time at the White Hart Inn, in *South-gate-Street:* two carpenters, *Paul Penrose* and *William Johnson*, being employed to cleanse a well, which had long been neglected and covered up; the former was let down into the well, and instantly suffocated by an uncommon stench; the latter went down after him and shared the same fate; a third man went down to endeavour to save his friends, and would have also fallen a victim had he not been immediately drawn up; he was almost expiring, but proper medicines being used was restored: he declared that such a putrid effluvia arose from the bottom of the well that it overpowered his senses: this must have been occasioned by the stagnant air, which had long been confined, and produced a mortal damp.

Two men suffocated in a well.

MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of Charles I.

1625.
Thomas Walker.
Nicholas Martin.
William Golding.
James White.
George Jourden.

1626.
John Taylor.
John Hakewill.
Robert Walker.
John Berry.
Joseph Trowbridge.

1627.
John Ackland.
Gilbert Sweet.
George Harris.
John Anthony.
Richard Maddock.

1628.
John Lynn.
Francis Crossing.
John Taylor, Jun.
John Cupper.
Humphrey Bidgood.

1629.
Nicholas Spicer.
Adam Bennet.
John Martin.
Thomas Blackall.
John Maddock.

1630.
Thomas Flaye.
Roger Mallock.
James Gould.
John Gill.
William Blackall.

1631.
Nicholas Martin.
John Crocker.
Simon Snow.
John Parr.
Marm. Bevercombe.

1632.
John Hakewill.
James Tucker.
Richard Crossing.
Ralph Herman.
Richard Mayne.

1633.
Gilbert Sweet.
Robert Walker.
Philip Crossing.
Richard Yeo.
Edward Anthony.

1634.
Francis Crossing.
John Hayne.
Chris. Broderidge.
Thomas Knott.

CHAP. III.

John Pinhay.
Thomas Kendall.
William Spiller.
Nicholas Somers.
Henry Gandy.

1635.
Adam Bennet.
John Penny.
James Marshall.
John Clark, Ob.
Robert Trescott.
Stephen Olivean.

1636.
Roger Mallock.
Richard Saunders.
Alan Penney.
Thomas Ford.
Henry Every.

1637.
Thomas Crossing.
Thomas Tooker.
John Colleton.
Nicholas Carwithen.
Humphrey Tooker.

1638.
James Tucker.
Christopher Clark.
Christopher Parr.
Oliver Tapper.
Richard Evans.

1639.
Robert Walker.
Henry Battishill.
Richard Sweet.

1640.
John Penny.
Walter White.
Samuel Crocker.
John Lovering.
John Butler.

1641.
Richard Saunders.
Hugh Crocker.
Nicholas Broking.
Thomas Pitt.
John Lavers.

1642.
Christopher Clark.
John Capper.
Chris. Clark, Jun.
Philip Foxwell.
Nicholas Brinley.

1643.
Sir Hu. Crocker, Kt.
Richard Yeo.
Chris. Lethbridge.
William Holmes.
Isaac Mauditt.

1644.
Nicholas Spicer.
John Martin.
William Sandford.

1645.
John Cupper.
John Colleton, removed.
James Gould.
James Tucker, Jun.
George Edmonds.
Edward Painter.

1646.
Walter White.
Richard Crossing.
Bernard Bartlett.
Henry Prigge.
Edward Laurence.

1647.
Adam Bennett.
John Lovering, refused the office.
Nicholas Broking.
Thomas Ford.
Richard Ledginham.
Francis Dyett.

1648.
James Gould.
Ralph Herman.
Francis Lippincot.
George Macy.
Thomas Tacke.

INTERREGNUM.

A. D. 1649. The Commonwealth.

The Independent party in the House of Commons having thus removed the King published a declaration against the proclaiming *Charles Stuart*, (the late King's eldest son) or any other person whatsoever, on pain of being punished as in cases of high treason. They next passed an act for abolishing the kingly power, as entirely useless, burthensome, and dangerous; and soon after set a price on Prince *Charles's* head: they also annulled the House of Lords, set up a Commonwealth, and obliged all persons possessed of any public post or office to take

out new grants and fresh oaths, in order to qualify themselves for holding the same.

This year *Richard Crossing, Esq.* being elected Mayor, refused to take the oaths appointed by the now *usurped* government; and no fine being set on him, nor any other Mayor chosen, the office for the year was supplied by deputies. The Mayor elected refuses to be sworn.

Richard Culling was appointed one of the Bailiffs, but he, refusing the office, was fined, and *William Cowell* placed in his stead. A. D. 1650.

Edward Foxwell was appointed to the said office, and refusing the same, was fined, and accordingly paid; but, being appointed again, the year following, he executed it. 1651.

There not being a sufficient number of members in the Common Council below the chair, that had qualified themselves (by having been either Receivers or Bailiffs) to serve the office of Mayor, two Receivers were this year appointed for that purpose; and the same method was pursued the following year. 1652.

A remarkable accident happened to *Mr. John Bettison*, Rector of the parish of *St. Mary Clist;* he, on the 11th of January, about six o'clock in the evening, was returning home from *Exeter*, on horseback, with his wife behind him, when in going down *Paris-Street* the horse, with its riders, fell into a well, near forty feet deep, which had been but slightly covered over. The neighbours being alarmed came to their assistance, and, by the help of ropes, extricated the Parson and his wife porvidentially unhurt: but the horse being much bruised died. 1653. The Parson of Mary Clist on horseback with his wife fall into a well in Paris-Street.

Oliver Cromwell, having established his authority on the ruins of the Parliament, caused himself to be proclaimed Protector of the kingdoms of *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland;* and accordingly he was proclaimed as such in this city, with great military pomp, on the 19th December, 1653. Oliver Cromwell proclaimed Protector.

Some gentlemen of *Wiltshire*, uneasy at the persecutions which the Royalists experienced, had recourse to arms; and on Sunday, March 11th, entered *Salisbury*, with about 200 men, where they seized all the horses they could find, and took the commissions from the Judges, it being then the time of the assizes: but finding their numbers increase but slowly, (as the people were deterred from joining them, through fear of the consequences) and having no prospect of success in *Wiltshire*, they retreated into *Devon*, where some troops of horse were sent in pursuit of them, which overtook them at *Southmolton:* a slight skirmish ensued, when, overpowered by numbers, they surrendered, on promise of pardon, and were brought prisoners 1655. An insurrection of the Royalists in Wiltshire. They retreat into Devon.

CHAP. III. to *Exeter*, where, as the goals were full of them, and they in great distress, the Citizens charitably administered every relief and consolation in their power.

Are overpowered, and brought prisoners to Exeter.

A special commission of Oyer and Terminer was held at the Castle for the trial of these unfortunate men; a great number were found guilty, and (in violence of the promise made to them on their surrender) *John Penruddock* and *Hugh Grove*, *Esquires*, were beheaded in the castle; several hanged at *Heavitree;* and a great number transported to *America*.

Are tried and executed.

The body of *Mr. Penruddock* was buried in St. Lawrence's church, and that of *Mr. Grove* in St. Sidwell's.

A. D. 1657. St. Peter's Churchyard railed in.

The Church-yard of St. Peter (which had hitherto been the common Cemetery for the city at large) was levelled and railed in at the sole expence of the Chamber; and for this purpose one hundred trees were felled and brought from *Duryard Wood:* the Chamber also ordered the horseway from the Broad-gate to be paved at their expence.

1658.

The Corn Market was removed from the Fore-Street to the new Shambles.

Oliver Cromwell died on the 3d September, 1658; and was succeeded by his eldest son, *Richard*, in the Protectorate.

Oliver had greatly augmented the naval power of *England*, and encouraged its commerce and manufactures, which greatly increased the riches of the kingdom; and *Exeter* shared in the general benefit, by an extension of its woollen manufactories.

Richard Cromwell proclaimed Protector. Long Parliament restored.

Richard was proclaimed Protector in this city September 7th, 1658; but, not having the abilities of his father, the general officers of the army soon usurped the whole power of government, and considered him as a mere cypher; and after a short anarchy restored the long Parliament, which had been dissolved by *Oliver* in 1653.

1659.

The nation at this time was divided into three parties; the *Parliament*, or *Commonwealth;* the *Army;* and the *Royalists*, who hoped for the restoration of the exiled King.

The Presbyterians join the Royalists in promoting the King's Restoration.

The latter were joined by a great number of Presbyterians, among whom were many of the principal ministers, who equally dreaded the assumed power of the army and the hatred of the Independents: hence commotions arose in different parts of the kingdom, and particularly in *Exeter*, where the inhabitants assembling in arms, declared for a free Parliament: this created such a confusion that it put a stop to all kind of business, insomuch that the shops were not opened for the space of three days.

These disturbances happening in the sessions week the Justices

and principal gentlemen of the county of *Devon* were assembled in the castle, when a remonstrance was by them agreed to, and sent to the Parliament, couched in the following terms :— CHAP. III. Remonstrance sent to Parliament,

TO THE

RIGHT HONOURABLE WILLIAM LENTHALL, ESQ.
SPEAKER OF THE PARLIAMENT.

"*We*, the gentry of the county of *Devon*, finding ourselves without a regular government, (after your last interruption) designed a public meeting to consult remedies, and which we could not so conveniently effect till this week of our general quarter sessions at *Exon*, where we found divers of the inhabitants groaning under high oppression and a general defect of trade, to the utter ruin of many, and fear of the like to others, which is as visible to the whole county that occasioned such disorders as were no small trouble and disturbance to us, which, by God's blessing upon our endeavours, were soon suppressed and quieted without blood; and though we find, since our first purposes, an alteration in the state of affairs, by your re-establishment at the helm of government, yet conceive that we are but in part redressed of our grievances, and that the chief expedient will be the recalling all those members who were secluded in 1648, and sat before the first force upon the Parliament, and also by filling up vacant places, and all to be admitted without any oath, or engagement previous to their entrance, for which things if you please to take a speedy course, we shall defend you against all opposers, and future interruption, with our lives and fortunes, for the accomplishment whereof we shall use all lawful means, which we humbly conceive may best conduce to the peace and safety of the nation."

This remonstrance was accordingly sent to *London*, and presented by *Thomas Bampfylde, Esq.* and became a precedent for many other cities and towns to follow their example. The whole power of government was usurped, at this period, by a committee of twenty-three persons, most of them officers in the army; and the Parliament not being able to wrest the authority from their hands, endeavoured to draw over *General Monk* (then in *Scotland*) to side with them: *Monk*, who had long designed the King's restoration, took advantage of this opportunity, and declared for the Parliament: his example being followed by others, he assembled his army and marched for *London*, where, gaining the good will of the Citizens, he, and presented by Thomas Bampfylde, Esq. Gen. Monk marches for London.

CHAP. III. according to the general desire of the nation, restored the Parliament that had been secluded in 1648.

A. D. 1660. The Parliament thus restored dissolved themselves in a few days after their meeting, and summoned a new Parliament to meet on the 25th April following.

The King proclaimed in London, and in this city. The new Parliament soon came to a resolution of restoring the King, and the ancient form of government: accordingly they sent some of their members to invite his Majesty over. He was proclaimed in *London*, 8th May, 1660; and on the Friday following at the usual places in this city, viz: at the *Guildhall*, the *Little Conduit*, in *St. Peter's Church-yard*, the *Serge Market*, at the *Great Conduit*, and at *St. John's Bow:* the procession was conducted with great solemnity and magnificence; consisting of the Mayor, Aldermen, Members of the Common Council, and city Officers, in their scarlet and other robes; the different incorporated companies, or trades, in their livery gowns, preceded by their beadles and banners; then the Herald at arms, dressed in his tabard, and mounted on a stately horse, surrounded by the Constables of the different wards, and attended by a troop of horse, with silver trumpets, commanded by *Major Hagedott;* then followed the different companies of the city Trained-bands, armed, and in their buff coats; the whole attended by many thousands of the Citizens, who testified their joy by repeated and loud acclamations; the conduits poured wine; the bells rang; and the thundering of cannons from the castle, with repeated volleys of musketry, rent the air; while every thing contributed to testify the happiness of the Citizens in being delivered from anarchy and confusion to a settled form of government both in Church and State.

MAYORS and BAILIFFS during the Interregnum and Usurpation.

1649.
Richard Crossing, refused.
Richard Saunders.
Adam Bennett, deputies.
Richard Evans.
Samuel Slade.
Richard Candish.
William Rolstone.

1650.
Richard Evans.
Richard Sweet.
Francis Lippingcott.
Richard Cullen, refused.
J. Mongwell, Jun.
William Cowell.

1651.
Richard Sweet.
Thomas Ford.
Walter Deeble.
William Bruen.
Edward Foxwell.

1652.
Ralph Herman.
James Pearsey, resigned.
Simon Snow.
Richard Spicer.
Richard White.
Edward Foxwell.

1653.
Simon Snow.
Chris. Clark, Jun. resigned.

James Marshall.
John Pynn.
Walter Holditch.
Thomas Dix.

1654.
Richard Crossing.
Chris. Lethbridge.
Malachi Pyne.
John Crook.
John Atwill.

1655.
Nicholas Broking.
Bernard Bartlett.
Bernard Sparke.
John Mayne.
Thomas Crispin.

1656.
Thomas Ford.
Henry Prigg.
William Pyne.
William Shower.
Tobias Allen.

1657.
James Pearse.
Henry Gandy.
John Gupwill.
Edmund Starr.
William Penny.

1658.
James Marshall.
Walter Deeble.
Edward Wheeler.
Samuel Beard.
William Hooper.

1659.
Chris. Clarke, Jun.
William Bruen.
Paul Draper.
John Elwill.
John Guswill.

1660.
Chris. Lethbridge.
John Pynn.
John Anthony.
Edward Eveleigh.
Abraham Gibbs.

End of the Third Chapter.

CHAPTER IV.

From the Accession of King Charles II. to the 44th of King George III.

CHAP. IV.

A. D. 1660.

KING CHARLES, immediately after his restoration, rewarded *General Monk* for the great share he had in promoting that desirable event, by creating him *Duke* of *Albermarle*, *Earl* of *Torrington*, *Baron Monk*, of *Potheridge*,* *Beauchamp*, and *Hays*, and *Knight* of the *Garter;* and the Citizens of *Exeter*, in testimony of the great regard they had for him and his merits, presented him with the freedom, and elected him, by a patent under their common seal, to be *Lord High Steward* of their city.

General Monk created Duke of Albermarle &c.

The Citizens, to welcome his Majesty's return home, presented him with plate to the value of £700; and his sister, *Princess Henrietta Maria*, with plate to the amount of £200 value.

The King presented with 700*l.* and his sister with 200*l.*

* *General Monk*, son of *Sir Thomns Monk*, was born at *Potheridge*, near *Great Torrington*, in the county of *Devon*. *Sir Thomas* having a large family, and living in an expensive style, much superior to his income, greatly reduced his paternal fortune, and involved himself in such difficulties that he was obliged to secrete himself from his creditors. It happened at a particular time that there was to be a general meeting of the gentlemen of the county of *Devon* at *Exeter Castle; Sir Thomas* rightly judging that some writs had been issued against him, and yet being desirous to attend the meeting, applied to the Sheriff, by letter, desiring that such writs may not be executed at that time; but that if he could not make a compromise with his creditors, he would surrender himself when called for. The Sheriff returned in answer "that upon his honour *Sir Thomas* should be free from his officers during the time of the said meeting;" but contrary to this promise he caused *Sir Thomas* to be publicly arrested in the presence of the whole meeting. This news being brought to the young *George Monk*, (afterwards the General) so exasperated him that he immediately took horse and came to *Exeter*, where, in the presence of all the gentlemen, he not only upbraided the Sheriff, but caned him very severely: for this a prosecution was commenced against him, and he was obliged to seek for safety by flight; and to shelter himself from his pursuers he entered as a common sailor on board a King's ship, where after some time he, for his good behaviour and bravery, was made a Lieutenant; and this was the first beginning of his warlike career.

The Bishops were now restored to their Sees; and those which had been vacated by death, since the abolition of episcopacy, were filled up: among these *Dr. John Gauden* was promoted to that of *Exeter*.

The Bishops restored to their Sees.

On his first visit to his Diocess he was met by the principal gentlemen of the county of *Devon*, who attended him to *Exeter*, forming a grand cavalcade of coaches, and some hundreds of horse: when he entered the city he was received at the East-gate by the Mayor, Chamber, and incorporated Trades, in their usual formalities, and some thousands of Citizens, who conducted him to the Cathedral, with great testimonies of joy and respect.

Bishop Gauden's entrance into this city.

Greenville Weeks, Gent. was elected Muster-Master of this city and county, and a yearly pension of £6 was allowed him.

Any person arresting another on a city plaint is to file a declaration within three weeks.

An ancient usage in this city was ordered to be continued by the Mayor and Bailiffs: that if any person should be here imprisoned upon a plaint, (issued from the Provost Court) and the Plaintiff bring not the declaration in writing into the court within three weeks after the arrest, and file the same, that the Defendant should be discharged from his imprisonment.

Sir James Smith, Knight, and *Robert Walker, Esq.* were elected representatives in parliament for this city.

The Musical Waits (after many years sequestration) were restored by the Mayor and Chamber to their places and salaries.

The City Waits restored.

A. D. 1661.

The Queen-mother, returning to *England*, was presented, in the name of the city, with plate to the value of £300, as a testimony of their joy for her safe arrival.

The city presents the Queen-mother with £300 in plate.

An act of parliament was this year passed, which enabled the King to grant commissions to divers gentlemen in the several counties, for the regulation of all corporations within their respective districts: those appointed for the county of *Devon* were *Sir Coplestone Bampfylde, Sir James Smith*, and *Thomas Walker, Esquire*, (the two latter were representatives for this city in parliament, and had greatly distinguished themselves by able speeches in the house,) *Sir Edward Seymour, Sir Thomas Berry, Sir Courtenay Pole, Sir Peter Prideaux*, and *Sir Henry Ford*.

1662.

John Martin, Esq. being elected Mayor, refused serving the office; of this notice being given to the King, he commanded him on his allegiance to accept the same, to which he assented, and executed it with reputation and honour.

The Mayor elected refuses to accept the office.

Two new Receivers were chosen and sworn successively to qualify themselves for serving the office of Mayor: the like precedent was pursued in the following year for the same purpose.

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A. D. 1663. 1664.

The road in Paris-Street* being much out of repair, and full of noisome and dangerous pits, was repaired and paved under the inspection of the Mayor, *John Butler, Esq.*

War declared against the Dutch.

On the 23d of March war was declared in this city against the states of *Holland*, with the usual solemnities, by the Herald at Arms, preceded by the Lord-Lieutenant, (the Mayor being deceased and no other elected in his stead) Aldermen, &c. and attended by a troop of horse, with four silver trumpets, and other martial music.

Northernhay walk new made.

The public walk on *Northernhay* having been ruined in the late civil wars, the fine elms cut down, and the site again converted into an outwork or counterscarp of the Castle, it was now levelled, new gravelled, upwards of two hundred young elms planted,† and seats erected.

Southernhay burial ground fenced and consecrated

A new burial place being much wanted, the lower end of *Southernhay Green* was enclosed with a brick wall, at the expence of the Chamber, and solemnly consecrated on the 28th of October, (for that purpose) and dedicated to the *Holy Trinity*, by *Bishop Ward*.

Dissenting clergy persecuted.

King *Charles*, forgetting the obligations he lay under to the Presbyterians, for the great share they had in promoting his restoration, prevailed on the Parliament, in the year 1662, by the persuasion of his ministers, to pass an act of uniformity in religion; and which was this year tacked to the corporation act, and again passed both Houses: by this all persons holding offices either in Church or State were obliged to qualify themselves by receiving the communion according to the Church of *England;* and this act being put into force with great rigour, many learned and worthy men who refused compliance were deprived of their livings, and cruelly persecuted by fines and imprisonment.

Ministers ejected.

Among those ejected in this city were *Ferdinando Nichols*, B. D. *Thomas Ford*, A. M. *Alexander Hodges*, A. M. *Thomas Downe*, A. M. *Thomas Powel*, A. M. *Robert Atkins*, A. M. and *Mark Downe*, A. M. By this act they were forbid to preach or pray in any private conventicle, under the following penalties: for the first offence a fine of £5, or three months' imprisonment; for the second £10, or six months' imprisonment;

Penalties on Dissenting Ministers.

* This road is now kept in repair at the expence of the parish of St. Sidwell.

† Some of the elms planted at this time are still standing in *situ*, and are a great ornament to the walk, from their majestic height, bulk, and agreeable shade.

and for the third offence transportation to some of the American plantations.

A collection made and sent to London, &c. for relief of the poor.

A large contribution of several hundred pounds, collected from the voluntary contributions of the Citizens of *Exeter*, was sent to *London* and different towns, which were infected by the plague, towards the relief of the poor; and for the better preventing the spreading of this dreadful calamity, should it visit this city, a Pest-house was purchased in an airy and detached situation, near the city, with proper conveniences for the reception of patients who might be visited with this malady.

King's Arms at the entrance of the haven re-erected.

The King's Arms which had been placed at the entrance of the new canal or haven, (on the point of land from thence termed *King's Arms Point)* having been demolished during the late usurpation, another was erected at the expence of the Chamber.

A. D. 1665.

On the last day of February war was declared in this city against the *French*.

A great fire at Bradninch.

The greatest part of the town of *Bradninch* having been consumed by an accidental fire, a voluntary contribution was made by the Citizens of *Exeter* towards the relief of the distressed inhabitants of that town.

1666. Great fire in London.

A dreadful fire, on the 2d of September, this year, having destroyed the greatest part of the city of *London*, the sum of £270 19*s*. was collected in this city, and sent towards the relief of the poor, who were reduced, by the catastrophe to the greatest distress.

1667.

The old lines and outworks to the city walls, upon *Southernhay*, were levelled and laid out in pleasant walks, on which upwards of two hundred young elms were planted in different rows.

1669. A fire in the High-Street.

On Midsummer-eve, this year, and about midnight, a fire was discovered in the stable of the Blue Anchor Inn, near *St. Lucie's-Lane*,* in the High-Street; which raging violently, consumed several stables and outhouses, with many horses that were therein, and greatly endangered the whole neighbourhood, but providentially, by the exertions of the inhabitants, it was happily prevented from spreading its ravages.

A large Sturgeon taken in the river Exe.

In the month of June a Sturgeon was taken by an inhabitant of this city in the river *Exe*, (opposite the *Red Rock*, or *Goodman's-well*, on this side *Topsham)* which measured nine feet and a half in length, and six feet in girth.

1670. The King visits this city.

A new Citadel having been built at *Plymouth*, his Majesty came by water to view it: and, on his return to *London*, taking this city in his route, he was received by the Mayor, Chamber,

* Now *Gandy's-Lane*.

CHAP. IV.

and incorporated trades, at the West-gate; and after the usual solemnities of presenting the city regalia, keys of the gates, &c. he was conducted to the Deanry, where he lodged that night. During his stay the Mayor, Aldermen, and members of the Common Council, where admitted into his presence, and had the honour of kissing his hand; he also knighted the Mayor, *Benjamin Oliver, Esquire.* The next morning he pursued his journey.

The King Knights the Mayor.

A. D. 1671.

On the 7th of February this year a sudden fire happened about midnight without the West-gate, which destroyed four houses, and most of the inhabitants' goods. Three persons, viz: *Thomas Hayne,* his *wife,* and *niece,* a girl of seventeen years of age, perished.

A fire without West-gate: 3 persons burnt.

On the 16th of April war was proclaimed against the *Dutch.*

War proclaimed against the Dutch.

The King, when on his visit to this city, having promised, as a testimony of his regard, to present it with a portrait of his sister, the late Duchess of *Orleans,** sent it down agreeable to his word, in a rich gilt frame, and which, with that of the late *General Monk,* was fixed up in the Guildhall.

The King sends his sister's portrait to this city.

A number of beggars and idle people infesting the streets of the city, pointed out the utility of a public *Work-house;* and as several sums of money had been bequeathed by different benefactors for employing and setting the poor to work, the same was now taken into consideration; and in addition to the said benefactions a general contribution among the Citizens enabled the Trustees to erect a convenient *Work-house* at the end of Paris-street;† by which the streets were cleared from the nuisance complained of, the incorrigible punished, and the aged, with the infant and industrious poor, relieved.

* This amiable Princess was poisoned, as plainly appears from a letter of the Duke of *Montague,* then Ambassador at the Court of *France,* wherein he says that Madame the Duchess being at *St. Cloud,* on Sunday, 29th June, 1670, with a great company, called, about five o'clock in the afternoon, for a glass of Chicory, or Succory Water, which was prescribed for her as a drink, she having found herself for two or three days after bathing much indisposed: that she had no sooner drank it, than she cried out "*I am dead,*" fell into Madame Masebourg's arms, and desired to be put to bed; then sent for her Confessor: she continued in the greatest agony imaginable till three o'clock in the morning, when she died.

† This *Work-house* (after the building of the present one) was used as a *Bridewell* for the city: after which it was converted into an Infirmary, by the name of the *Exeter Hospital,* but being united to the present *Devon* and *Exeter Hospital,* the house, &c. was converted into a manufactory for weaving Tapestry, under the protection of his Royal Highness the Prince of *Wales;* but not meeting with due encouragement, it failed; and the premises are now occupied by poor tenants.

A. D. 1673.

The street of *St. Sidwell's*, from *Eastgate* to *St. Ann's Chapel*, was paved at the expence of the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral, they being Lords of the manor; part of the city wall, near the new burying ground on *Southernhay*, 90 feet in length and 30 feet in height, fell down suddenly, in the night, but without hurt to any one; and was rebuilt at the expence of the Chamber.

St. Sidwells new paved. Part of the city walls fall down.

Mrs. Elizabeth Flay, widow of *Thomas Flay*, *Esq.* bequeathed by will a silver bason and ewer, partly gilt, to the Chamber, for the use of the Mayor of this city, and his successors, for ever.

Thomas Walker, *Esq.** an Alderman of this city, was elected one of its representatives in parliament, in room of his father, deceased.

Thos. Walker, Esq. elected a member of parliament.

A great scarcity of corn happening at this time, and the price increasing, the Mayor, *Isaac Maudit*, *Esq.* procured the sum of 300*l.* with which he provided a public granary, from whence wheat, ready ground, was sold to the poor at a much less price than they could purchase it in the markets.

A scarcity of corn.

1674.

About seven o'clock on the morning of December 29th the house of *Richard Jewell*, in the parish of *St. Sidwell's*, suddenly fell down, by which the said *Jewell* was dangerously hurt, and his wife and grand-child were killed on the spot.

A house in St. Sidwells falls down, two people killed.

Sir William Courtenay, of *Powderham Castle*, was made a freeman of this city.

1675.

An Act of Parliament having been passed for the better regulating of the Militia, his Grace *Christopher* Duke of *Albermarle*, (son of the late *General Monk*) Lord-Lieutenant of the county of *Devon* and city of *Exeter*, came here for that purpose; and during his stay (which was upwards of three weeks) lodged at the Deanry, where he kept a plentiful table, and gave free entertainment to all visitors. He twice honoured the Mayor's table with his presence, and was elegantly entertained: he accepted the freedom of the city; and for this purpose went to the Guildhall, and there took the accustomed oath: his Grace was attended by *Sir Edward Seymour*, *Sir Copplestone Bampfylde*, *Sir Arthur Northcote*, and *Sir Hugh Ackland*, Baronets; *Sir John Rolle* and *Sir William Leach*, Knights of the Bath; *Sir Thomas Daniel*, *Sir William Wallrond*, and *Sir Henry Ford*, Knights Bachelors; with several other

The Duke of Albermarle visits this city.

Accepts the freedom, and takes the accustomed oath.

* There are two descendants from this gentleman who, at the present time, (1801) fill the important offices of Justices of the Peace and Aldermen of this city, viz: *Edward Walker*, *Esq.* (brother-in-law to the Right Honourable Earl *St. Vincent* and *Viscount Hood*) and *Benjamin Honeycombe Walker*, *Esq.* a Captain in *Colonel Wright's* regiment of Exeter Volunteers.

CHAP. IV.

gentlemen of quality, who were likewise complimented with their freedom, and sworn accordingly.

The navigation of the river greatly improved

The Wharfage of the City Quay (which had heretofore been farmed by lease) reverted into the hands of the Chamber; and by the indefatigable diligence of *Mr. Henry Smith*, Receiver-General, the navigation to the city was much improved, by cleansing the river, cutting a new leat through the marshes, about half a mile in length, and enlarging the pool; making it so capacious that one hundred sail of ships may safely ride therein; by this means vessels, which before were often detained upwards of a fortnight waiting for the spring tides, could now daily pass up and down, to the great advantage of the merchants and others; and thus abated the price of conveyance of goods nearly one third.

The Quay levelled, &c

The Quay and adjoining island* were also levelled and encompassed with a strong wall, alongside which ships may lie with great conveniency, either to discharge or take in their cargoes. A new Custom-house was built on the Quay, with convenient offices and cellars for storing goods. In these works the Chamber expended upwards of £3,000, exclusive of the great benefactions received from different well-wishers to the undertaking, among whom ought not to be forgotten the *Rev. Dr. George Carey*, Dean of the Cathedral, who was a most liberal benefactor.

A. D. 1681.

The town of *Tangier*, on the coast of *Africa*, near the *Straits* of *Gibralter*, (part of the portion received by the King with his Queen, *Catharine* of *Portugal*) being besieged by the *Moors*, of *Barbary*, a new regiment of foot was ordered to be raised, as a reinforcement to that garrison: accordingly a commission was issued for that purpose to the Duke of *Albermarle*, and he appointed the city of *Exeter* to be the rendezvous for assembling and training the said regiment; which, through the Duke's great influence in the said city and county of *Devon*, was soon completed, and honoured with the title of the *King's own Tangierene Regiment*. †

The 4th Regiment of Foot raised in Exeter.

1682. Three women tried and executed for witchcraft.

At the summer assizes, this year, three poor ignorant and aged women, named *Temperance Lloyd*, *Mary Trembles*, and *Susannah Edwards*, were tried and convicted at the Castle, for

* Now termed the Coal Quay.

† This regiment, now known by the name of the King's own, or 1th regiment of foot, (consisting at first mostly of natives of *Exeter* and the neighbouring country) were termed the *Exeter Guards*, which epithet they never disgraced. They have ever been remarked for their steady discipline and valour, in the various actions in which they have been; and have more than once been honoured with the thanks of their King and country.—Barrel's regiment, at the battle of Culloden, 1746, much distinguished.

witchcraft. The evidence against them was direct and positive, which was confirmed by the confessions of the prisoners themselves, who acknowledged that many parts of the accusation against them were true. This confession, which nothing but their own weakness of mind could have induced, or the most consummate ignorance could have believed, was the only ground of their conviction; and even at the gallows the poor deluded wretches assented to its truth. They were natives of *Bideford*, and were executed at *Heavitree*, on August 25th, 1682, and were the last sufferers, under the detestable statutes enacted against the supposed crimes of sorcery and witchcraft, in this county.*

A. D. 1683. The King demands the city charter.

The unbridled licentiousness of the King, and the ill government of his ministers, created great discontent among his subjects, and it seems as if it reached this city: for this year his Majesty, by a *quo warranto*, demanded a surrender of the charter, which was accordingly delivered up: and in the following year (1684) a new charter was granted, by which the following gentlemen were nominated and appointed, viz:—

James Walker, Esq. Mayor.
Thomas Gibbon, Esq. Recorder.

ALDERMEN.

Henry Smith.	George Saffin.	John Cholwich.
Endymion Walker.	John Snell.	Christopher Bale.
Robert Dabynott.		

Edward Cross, Esq. High Sheriff.

COMMON COUNCILMEN.

John Carwithen.	Richard Pidgsley.	Edward Dally.
Malachi Pyne.	John Matthew.	William Jope.
Humphrey Leigh.	Charles Alden.	Trist. Bowdidge.
Christopher Coke.	Thomas Hill.	Thomas Potter.
John Gandy.		

* The particulars of this extraordinary trial, which made a great noise throughout the country, was printed and published; and the nature of the evidence may be seen from the following extract of *Elizabeth Eastchant*, one of the principal witnesses. "The said informant, upon her oath, saith, that upon the 2d day of July, the said *Grace Thomas*, (one of the persons supposed to have been under the power of *witchcraft*,) then lodging in this informant's husband's house, and hearing her complain of great pricking pains in one of her knees, she, this informant, did see her said knee, and observed she had nine places in her knee, which had been pricked; and that every one of the said pricks was as though it had been the prick of a thorn; whereupon this informant, upon the 2d of July, did demand of the said *Temperance Lloyd* whether she had any wax or clay in the form of a picture, whereby she had pricked and tormented the said *Grace Thomas*; unto which the said *Temperance* made answer, that she had no wax or clay, but confessed that she had only a piece of leather, which she had pricked nine times."

CHAP. IV. A. D. 1685.

King *Charles* died on the 5th of February, 1685,* and was succeeded by his only surviving brother, *James*, Duke of *York;* who was accordingly proclaimed King in this city on the 9th of February.

MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of Charles II.

1661.	1665.	1670.
Henry Gandy.	*Nicholas Isaac.*	*Sir Ben. Oliver, Kt.*
John Acland.	Peter Hagedot.	Chris. Broderidge.
Benjamin Oliver.	John Collins.	Peter Risdon.
George Knowling.	Francis Maypowder.	John Cholwich.
George Shapcote.	Edward Cheeke.	Edward Heckman.
1662.	**1666.**	**1671.**
John Martin.	*John Acland.*	*William Sandford.*
Isaac Mauditt, declined.	James Slade.	John Parr.
John Butler, ditto.	Endymion Walker.	Francis Kingwell.
Alan Penny.	Robert Dabynot.	John Warren.
George Tuthill.	John Somers.	Thomas Edmonds.
John Gibbons.	**1667.**	**1672.**
Andrew Quash.	*Thomas Walker.*	*Henry Gandy.*
1663.	Benjamin Oliver.	John Collins.
John Butler.	John Sparke.	William Bodley.
Stephen Olivean, declined.	John Carwithen.	William Cove.
Anthony Salter, do.	Samuel Calle.	Abisha Brocas.
Nicholas Isaac.	**1668.**	**1673.**
John Gandy.	*George Tuthill.*	*Isaac Mauditt.*
Benjamin Beard.	William Sandford.	Wm. Glyde, Jun.
Henry Smith.	Robert Davy.	Henry Cudmore.
1664.	Joseph Mauditt.	Humphrey Leigh.
Alan Penny, Ob.	Edward Cross.	Edward Hill.
Anthony Salter.	**1669.**	**1674.**
George Tuthill.	*Peter Hagedot.*	*Chris. Broderidge.*
John Parr.	Isaac Mauditt.	Andrew Quash.
Robert Buckland.	Humph. Levermore.	Nicholas Trype.
Richard Hooper.	George Saffin.	Simon Trowbridge.
	John Baker.	Job Beard.

* Great suspicion was held that the King was poisoned, as the prevailing party at court would not allow the surgeons who opened the body a sufficient time to examine his body and intestines; and but a few hours after his death such an offensive smell came from the corpse that the attendants were obliged to leave the room: a circumstance very extraordinary in one of so healthy and vigorous a constitution.

1675.
John Parr.
Henry Smith.
Francis Worth, Ob.
Thomas Smith.
John Pearse.
John Lee.

1676.
William Glyde.
Thomas Bale.
Daniel Gundry.
George Sandford.
Joseph Boson.

1677.
George Tuthill.
Endymion Walker.
Robert Hutchings.
John Boyland.
Thomas Barons.

1678.
William Sandford.
Robert Dabynott.
Simon Gandy.
Edward Dally.
Thomas Horn.

1679.
John Collins.
George Saffin.
Philip Cheeke.
Peter Battishill.
Thomas Gould.

1680.
Henry Smith.
John Snell.
Roger Cheeke.
Gilbert Yard.
Andrew Bowman.

1681.
Isaac Mauditt.
Charles Alden.
John Carwithen.
Wm. Southmead.
Nathaniel Gist.

1682.
Endymion Walker.
John Cholwich.
Richard Pidgsley.
William Bolithoe.
Arthur Glanvill.

1683.
Chris. Broderidge.
Christopher Bale.
Edward Seaward.
John Case.
William Jope.

1684.
James Walker.
Malachi Pyne.
Benjamin Ivie.
Roger Mallock.
Thomas Boyland.

A. D. 1685. James II.

King *James* ascended the throne amidst the greatest acclamations of his subjects, and was crowned the 23d of April, 1685. In his first speech from the throne he declared "*that he was determined to defend and maintain the Church of England, and to preserve the government in Church and State, as established by law;*" and had he fulfilled this promise he would have prevented the miseries which afterwards befel himself and his family: but his well known predilection for the Popish religion gave just grounds to his subjects to doubt his sincerity; and therefore, before he was settled on his throne, a rebellion broke out in *Scotland.*

Duke of Argyle raises a rebellion in Scotland, is taken prisoner and beheaded.

The Duke of *Argyle* (who had been banished in the late reign) landed in *Scotland* with a small force, which was joined by many zealous Protestants, amounting to near 3000; with this reinforcement he erected his standard, and declared his intention of supporting the Protestant religion: but government receiving early intelligence of his designs, he was defeated, taken, and beheaded.

This commotion was no sooner over than another broke out in *England,* when the Duke of *Monmouth* (a natural son of the

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Duke of Monmouth lands at Lyme.

late King) landed at *Lyme*, on the 11th June, accompanied by near one hundred officers and gentlemen, and bringing with him arms for 5000 men. As soon as his little troop were got on shore he published a declaration, which charged the King with burning the city of *London*, of poisoning his brother, *(King Charles)* and of his intentions to introduce Popery into this kingdom. This declaration brought numbers of the middling and common people to join his standard; and he soon found himself at the head of 6000 men, whom he regimented, though he could not completely arm. Four days after his landing he marched to *Axminster;* to which place the Duke of *Albemarle* (who had hastily assembled the Militia of the county of *Devon)* was marching from *Exeter*, with 4000 men: *Monmouth* having taken possession of and fortified the avenues, the King's troops retreated in great confusion back to *Exeter*.

Proceeds to Axminster.

Marches to Taunton, and is proclaimed King.

On the 18th of June the Duke of *Monmouth* (instead of pursuing the fugitives)* marched for *Taunton*, where he was received with great acclamations and testimonies of joy: in this town he was proclaimed King, and thence proceeded to *Bridgewater*, where he was also proclaimed by the Mayor, *Mr. Alexander Popham;* but this epitome of royalty was of short duration.

Is defeated, taken prisoner, and beheaded.

The King's troops having collected together under the command of the Earl of *Feversham*, a general engagement took place on *Sedgmoor*, near *Bridgewater*, in which the Duke was defeated and taken prisoner; and being carried to *London*, was beheaded.

This ill-timed rebellion (though greatly instrumental in promoting the glorious Revolution) proved fatal to numbers of the Duke's unhappy followers. That monster of cruelty, *Lord Chief Justice Jefferies*, was sent into the west, with a special commission of Oyer and Terminer to try the delinquents, attended by a body of troops, under the command of *Colonel Kirk*, a barbarian like himself: they proceeded to the greatest acts of cruelty, sparing neither age nor sex. In the course of their circuit they condemned above 500 persons; 239 were executed, 80 of whom suffered in *Exeter;* and their mangled quarters were exposed on trees in the public roads, to the great annoyance and terror of passengers.

Lord Chief Justice Jefferies' cruelty.

A. D. 1686. The Earl of Bath admitted to the freedom of the city.

The Right Honourable the Earl of *Bath*, on being appointed Lord-Lieutenant of the county of *Devon* and city of *Exeter*, was presented with the freedom of the city: and the following

* The Duke has been much blamed for not pursuing the fugitives to Exeter, as he might easily have taken it, and provided his men with sufficient arms and stores, of which they were much in need.

A. D. 1687.

year the Earl of *Dartmouth* was admitted to the same privilege.

Earl of Dartmouth admitted to the freedom of the city.

The King, listening entirely to the advice of his Popish counsellors, stretched the royal prerogative to the utmost; and, by the unjust decisions of his Courts of Justice, alienated the affections of his subjects, which occasioned a general discontent.

Among other stretches of his power, he sent a *mandamus* to this city for removing the Mayor and other officers, and appointing others in their room: the letter was couched in the following terms:—

The King sends a mandamus for removing the Mayor, &c.

"*James Rex,*"

"Trusty and well-beloved, We greet you well. *Whereas* we have, by our order in council, thought fit to remove *John Snell, Esq.* from being Mayor, and one of the Aldermen of that our city of *Exeter; George Saffin, John Cholwich, James Walker,* and *Henry Smith,* from being Aldermen; *Christopher Coke,* from being one of the Sheriffs, and of the Common Council; *Humphrey Leigh, Charles Alden, Thomas Potter, Nathaniel Gist, Malachi Pyne, Edward Dally, John Carwithen,* and *William Joyce,* from being of the Common Council; and *Richard Rous,* from being Sword-bearer of our said city: We have thought fit hereby to will and require you forthwith to elect and admit our trusty and well-beloved *Thomas Jefford, Esq.* to be Mayor and one of the Aldermen; *George Tothill,* Merchant, *William Glyde,* Gent., *Edmund Starr,* Merchant, and *Thomas Atherton,* Merchant, to be Aldermen; *Richard Cunningham,* Gent. to be one of the Sheriffs, and of the Common Council; *John Curson,* Receiver, and of the Common Council; *John Starr,* Merchant, *John Pym,* Merchant, *John Boyland,* Merchant, *Robert Buckland,* Vintner, *Jeremiah King,* Grocer, *Robert Tristram,* Merchant, *Tobias Allen,* Merchant, and *Hugh Bidwell,* Fuller, to be of the Common Council; and *Joseph Bradshaw,* to be Sword-bearer of our said city, in the room of the persons above-mentioned; and *Humphrey Bowden,* Fuller, to be one of the Aldermen in room of *Endymion Walker,* deceased; without administering to them any other oaths but the usual oath for their executing of their respective places, with which we are pleased to dispense in this behalf; and for so doing this shall be your warrant; and so we bid you farewell."

New Mayor, &c. appointed.

"Given at our Court, at *Whitehall,* this 28th day of November, 1687, in the Third Year of our reign."

"By his Majesty's command,"

"*SUNDERLAND.*"

"*To our trusty and well-beloved the Deputy Recorder, Aldermen, Common Councilmen, and Freemen of the Corporation of the city of Exeter.*"

CHAP. IV.

The city charter surrendered.

On the 24th January, 1687, *Mr. Jefford*,* the Mayor, was desired by the then Chamber to surrender into his Majesty's hand the former charter, which was done accordingly; and on the 27th March, 1688, the new charter was first executed; and the new Mayor knighted by the King.

On the 27th September following the King's mandate was sent down to elect and continue *Sir Thomas Jefford* to be Mayor of this city, and *Richard Cunningham, Esq.* to be Sheriff, for the year ensuing, in the following words:—

"*James Rex*," "27 die Septembris, 1688."

The King's mandate for continuing the present Mayor and Sheriff for another year.

"Trusty and well-beloved, We greet you well. *Whereas* we are well satisfied of the loyalty and ability of our trusty and well-beloved *Sir Thomas Jefford, Knight*, the present Mayor, and *Richard Cunningham, Esq.* the present Sheriff of that our city of *Exeter:* We have thought fit hereby to require you to elect and continue him the said *Sir Thomas Jefford* to be Mayor, and the said *Richard Cunningham, Esq.* to be Sheriff of our said city, for the year ensuing, with all the rights, profits, and advantages thereunto belonging, without administering to them any oath or oaths but the usual oath for the execution of their respective places, with which we are graciously pleased to dispense in this behalf, and for so doing this shall be your warrant; and so we bid you farewell. Given at our Court, at *Windsor*, this 27th day of August, in the Fourth Year of our reign."

"By his Majesty's command,"
"*SUNDERLAND.*"

A. D. 1688.

The King endeavours to restore the Papal religion.

The King now threw off the mask by his public profession of the Roman Catholic religion; and, in order to reconcile his three kingdoms to the Holy See, he sent the Earl of *Castlemain* Ambassador to the Pope; he likewise (the better to answer his purpose) dispensed with several of his officers and councillors from complying with the Test Act; and by the advice of his Popish ministers laid aside the penal laws; and sent a circular letter to the Bishops, with orders to prohibit the inferior clergy from preaching upon controverted points of Divinity; he also

* *Sir Thomas Jefford* was very skilful in his profession of a Dyer, by which he accumulated a large fortune: but being ambitious and aspiring to honours, procured himself the civic chair of this city, which he enjoyed but a short time. There is a tradition that having dyed a piece of fine broadcloth blue on one side and crimson on the other, he presented it to the King, who was so much pleased with it that he ever after held him in great esteem. *Sir Thomas*, with the other members of this new created Chamber, were Presbyterians, which seems to be the reason for the King's dispensing with the usual oaths of qualification.

published a declaration granting liberty of conscience to Dissenters of all denominations, which declaration he ordered to be publicly read in all the churches and chapels. Several of the Bishops refusing to comply with this order, the Archbishop of *Canterbury* and six other Bishops* were committed prisoners to the Tower of *London;* but being tried in the Court of King's Bench were acquitted, to the great satisfaction of the people. Those acts of oppression, and the apprehension of again being subjected to the superstition and tyranny of the Court of *Rome,* entirely alienated the affections of his subjects; and the Episcopalians, uniting with the Dissenters, resolved to set the Prince of *Orange* on the throne. Several noblemen and other persons of distinction went over (on various pretensions) to the *Hague,* to consult with the Prince of *Orange,* and to desire assistance in rescuing the nation from the impending dangers which now hung over it; to this his Royal Highness consented, and accordingly set sail from the *Brill,* in *Holland;* and on Monday, the 5th of November, 1688, the fleet, consisting of fifty capital men of war, twenty-six frigates, twenty-five fireships, and about three hundred transports and storeships, came into *Torbay.* The Prince was on board a new ship of thirty guns, whose flag was the *English colours,* with this motto: *the Protestant religion and liberties of England;* and underneath, *I will maintain it.* He then hoisted a red flag at the mizen-yard arm, and proceeded to make good his landing, which was accomplished without any opposition, the people welcoming and hailing him as their deliverer, bringing in all necessary provisions both for man and horse, for which they were honestly paid their demands. The Prince the same day sent a Captain to search *Tor Abbey* (and other houses inhabited by Papists) for horses and arms.†

CHAP. IV.

Six Bishops sent to the Tower.

The people uneasy.

The Prince of Orange invited over

Sets sail from Holland.

Lands at Torbay.

The Prince's army, consisting of near 30,000 well armed and disciplined troops, were safely landed by Tuesday afternoon; and their baggage, ammunition, and stores, were sent to *Topsham,* by water, from whence they were brought strongly guarded to this city. On Wednesday, the 7th, the Prince came to *Ford-house,* near *Newton Bushel,* where he was most hospitably

He lays at Ford house.

* One of these Bishops was *Sir Jonathan Trelawney,* then Bishop of *Bristol,* but afterwards of *Exeter,* a native of *Cornwall;* and his confinement greatly exasperated the *Cornishmen.*

† A Popish Priest, residing at *Tor Abbey,* discovering the fleet, and the white flags on some of the men of war, concluded it was a French fleet come to the assistance of King *James,* against the Prince of *Orange,* and (transported with joy) ordered all the family to repair to the chapel, to sing *Te Deum* for the arrival of the *French:* but he was soon undeceived, and laughed at for his mistake.

CHAP. IV. received and entertained, by order of the noble owner, *Sir William Courtenay*, where he lay that night. At *Newton Bushel* he was met by a clergyman, who preceded him to the market place, where he read the Prince's declaration, which was received with every demonstration of joy.

Capt. Hicks comes to Exeter and enlists men in the Prince's service.

The same day *Captain Hicks*, with a party of horse, came to *Exeter*, where great numbers flocked to him to enlist themselves in the Prince's service, which the Mayor hearing of sent for him and questioned him if he had a commission for what he did; to which he would return no direct answer, nor give any account of the Prince's designs. For this contempt he was ordered to prison; but the populace, who were assembled in great numbers about the Guildhall, would not permit his being carried away; therefore he was suffered to remain in the Hall under the custody of two Constables, and was amply provided for, during his short confinement, by the Mayor's orders. Thursday the *Lord Mordaunt* and *Dr. Burnet*, (afterwards Bishop of *Salisbury*) with four troops of horse, came to *Exeter*. When they arrived at the West-gate they found it shut against them; upon which *Lord Mordaunt* ordered the Porter to open the gate on pain of death,* which being presently done he required him on the same penalty not to shut it again. As soon as they were entered the city *Lord Mordaunt* went to the Guildhall and set *Capt. Hicks* at liberty. That afternoon *Lord Mordaunt* and *Dr. Burnet* waited on the Mayor, requesting him to meet the Prince at the gate, and govern the city under him, which he absolutely refused, and told them that he was under the obligation of an oath to his Majesty, and desired that the Prince would lay no commands on him that should be prejudicial to his conscience: and after some further debate on the matter his Lordship departed much dissatisfied. All Thursday the soldiers continued to enter the city; and on Friday the Prince came with his guards, who continued marching through the city, to the adjacent villages and towns, without ceasing, for the space of three hours. The Prince's public entry into *Exeter* was very magnificent, and conducted in the following manner: the Right Honourable the Earl of *Macclesfield*, with two hundred horsemen, most of whom were *English* nobles and

Is ordered to prison, but is rescued by the people.

Lord Mordaunt comes to this city.

The Mayor refuses to meet the Prince, or govern the city under him.

The Prince of Orange arrives.

His entry into Exeter.

* There is a tradition that the Porter refusing to open the gate, *George Tuthill, Esq.* one of the Aldermen, opened it and admitted the troops; and that he afterwards meeting with great losses at sea was much reduced in his circumstances, which coming to the knowledge of the Prince, after his advancement to the throne, he gratefully rewarded him with a pension of £200 per annum.

gentlemen, richly mounted on *Flanders steeds*, completely clothed in bright armour; two hundred *Negroes* (attending the said gentlemen) had on embroidered caps, lined with furs, and plumes of white feathers; two hundred *Finlanders*, clothed in beavers' skins, in black armour and with broad swords; fifty gentlemen and as many pages to attend and support the Prince's standard; fifty led horses all managed and broke for war, with two grooms to each horse; two state coaches; the Prince on a milk white horse, in a complete suit of bright armour, a plume of white ostrich feathers on his head, and forty-two footmen running by his side; two hundred gentlemen and pages on horseback; three hundred *Swiss guards*, armed with fusees; five hundred volunteers, with two led horses each; the Prince's guards, in number six hundred, armed cap-a-pie; the rest of the army brought up the rear: they had fifty waggons loaded with cash, and one hundred and twenty pieces of cannon.

On the road his Highness was met by great multitudes of people who welcomed him by loud huzzas and acclamations: the same was done at *Exeter*, where the streets were thronged, and the windows filled with joyful spectators: he was conducted to the Deanry, which had been prepared in a hasty manner for his reception, and where he kept his court during his residence in this city; and by his affability, and the strict discipline and good behaviour of his troops, gained the esteem of all ranks of people.*

The Prince keeps his Court at the Deanry.

After taking some refreshment the Prince went to the Cathedral to render thanks to Almighty God for his safe arrival, when being seated in the Bishop's throne, the choir sung *Te Deum*, and after Divine service *Dr. Burnet* read the Prince's declaration. On Sunday he again attended Divine service, at the Cathedral, when *Dr. Burnet* preached; the text was taken from the last verse of the 107th Psalm, "*whoso is wise will ponder these things, and they shall understand the loving kindness of the Lord.*" Notwithstanding this kind reception the Prince met with from the middling and lower classes of people, the magistrates and clergy were very backward, particularly in this city, where only *Alderman Tuthill* and one other member of the Chamber declared in his favor; it was likewise the same with the gentlemen of the county of *Devon*, not one of whom joined his standard, except *Mr. Burrington*, of *Sampford*,

Goes to the Cathedral.

Dr. Burnet preaches.

The Magistrates of Exeter, &c. backward in declaring for the Prince of Orange.

* *Bishop Lamplugh* on the news of the Prince's approach left the city in a great hurry and repaired to the King, (by whom he was advanced to the Archbishopric of *York*) and was soon after followed by the Dean and most of the resident clergy.

CHAP. IV. (a Major of the Militia) who came to him on the Monday and was kindly received.

It does not appear that this backwardness proceeded from any ill motive or design to retard the Prince from proceeding on his expedition, but rather from a dread of its failure; they having had sufficient experience of the sanguinary disposition of the King and his Ministers from the recent examples made of the unhappy followers of the late Duke of *Monmouth*, their mangled bodies being still exposed to their view.

The Prince has some intentions of retreating.

The backwardness of the *Devonshire* gentlemen damped the spirits of the Prince, and he had some thoughts of abandoning his design; but he was soon relieved from his anxiety by the arrival at *Exeter* of the *Lord Colchester*, (who brought some of the King's troops with him) he was soon after followed by many other persons of distinction, and many gentlemen of the first quality in the county of *Devon* now repaired to his standard, who assembling together in the Cathedral, at the instigation of *Sir Edward Seymour*, Recorder of this city, entered into and subscribed the following association:—

Lord Colchester, &c. comes to Exeter.

The gentlemen of Devon join his standard.

And enter into an association.

"We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, who have now joined with the Prince of *Orange*, for the defence of the Protestant Religion, and for the maintaining of the ancient government, and the laws and liberties of *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*, do engage to Almighty God, to his Highness the Prince of *Orange*, and to one another, to stick firm in this cause, in the defence of it, and never to depart from it, until our religion, laws, and liberties are so far secured to us in a free Parliament that we shall be no more in danger of falling under Popery and slavery. And whereas we are engaged in this common cause, under the protection of the Prince of *Orange*, by which case his person might be exposed to danger, and the cursed attempts of *Papists* and other bloody men, we do therefore solemnly engage to God, and to one another, that if any such attempt be made upon him we will pursue not only those that make it, but all their adherents, and all that we find in arms against us, with the utmost severity of a just revenge to their ruin and destruction. And that the execution of any such attempt, which God of his infinite mercy forbid, shall not divert us from prosecuting this cause which we now do undertake, but that it shall engage us to carry it on with all the vigour that so barbarous an action shall deserve."

"Given under our hands and seals, in the Cathedral Church of *St. Peter, Exeter*, this 17th day of November, 1688."

This association was speedily published throughout the country, and many noblemen and others came to the Prince; whilst King *James* (who had assembled his army at *Salisbury*) finding himself daily deserted by many of his principal noblemen and commanders, who brought entire regiments with them and joined the Prince at *Exeter*, now too late perceived his error, and published a declaration promising to call a free Parliament, and to govern according to the laws; but this declaration was little attended to, and he found himself deserted by those he put most confidence in.

The King deserted by his nobles, &c.

Publishes a declaration, which is not attended to.

The Prince of *Orange* (thus encouraged) after a stay of twelve days marched for *London*,* leaving the government of *Exeter* to *Sir Edward Seymour*, the Recorder, and *Colonel Gibson*, with a small garrison, in charge of his heavy artillery and stores, which, on account of the badness of the roads, he was obliged to leave behind him.

The Prince of Orange marches for London.

Before the Prince left *Exeter* several thousands of men enlisted themselves in his service; and many thousands more would have followed their example had they been permitted, but no occasion existed for their services. On the news of the Prince's approach the King driven to despair, and not knowing whom to trust or confide in, left his army and returned to *London*, from whence, on December the 23d, he abdicated the government, and secretly made his escape to *France*, to which country he had before sent his Queen and son, the Prince of Wales.

The King escapes to France.

Impartial historians all agree that this unfortunate Monarch was a kind father, a tender husband, a good master, and would have been a good King had he not been misled by his wicked ministers; and that the religion he professed was the source of all his troubles, it being highly probable that his reign would have been propitious had he been a Protestant, or his subjects Roman Catholics.

MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of James II.

1685.	Edward Ball.	Christopher Coke.
Robert Dabynott.		Daniel Ivie.
Humphrey Leigh.	1686.	Edward Collins.
William Sanford.	*George Saffin.*	Robert Foster.
Isaac Gibbs.		

* Previous to the Prince's departure he caused the surrounding heights to be surveyed, intending to fortify the city, to secure his retreat in case he should be compelled so to do; but his engineers representing to him the almost impracticability of it, by the nature of the city's situation, he abandoned his design.

CHAP. IV.

1687.		1687.	
John Snell.		*Sir T. Gifford, Kt.*	
John Gandy.	*Removed by the King's Mandate.*	John Curson.	*Appointed in their places.*
John Burell.		Anthony Vicary.	
Richard Peryam.		William Atkins.	
Thomas Salter.		William Reynell.	

1688.		1688.
Sir T. Gifford, Kt.	*Removed by order of the King's Privy Council.*	*The Charter restored.*
John Pym.		
John Harris.		*Christopher Bale.*
John Keese.		John Gandy.
		John Dally.
Chris. Broderidge, *reinstated.*		Henry Newcombe.
Chris. Bale, *elected Dec. 8th.*		Oliver Mostyn.
Edward Seaward.		
John Case.		
William Jope.		

A. D. 1689. Wm. III. and Mary II.

On the Prince of *Orange's* arrival in *London* the Peers then in town desired him to take the administration upon himself, till they should have assembled the estates of the kingdom, by the style and title of *Convention*, which was summoned for the 22d of January, 1689. At this meeting the House of Commons declared the throne vacant by the abdication of the late King, which being agreed to by the House of Peers, it was resolved to offer the crown to the Prince and Princess of *Orange*, and they accepting the offer were proclaimed in *London* King and Queen of *Great Britain* on the 17th of February; and in this city (with the usual solemnity, and great acclamations of the inhabitants) on the Friday following.*

King William and Queen Mary proclaimed in this city.

Before King *James's* abdication he, in order to regain the lost affections of his subjects, issued a proclamation for restoring the charters of such cities and towns which he had deprived them of, excepting those only who had come into his measures by a voluntary surrender of their franchises, of which the city of *Exeter* was one; but on the 5th day of November, 1688, the following order from the King was received in this city:

* On this occasion there were great rejoicings in this city; the conduits ran with wine, and at night there were great illuminations. The populace, almost mad with joy, insulted the houses of the Papists, and were proceeding to acts of violence, when a timely stop was put to it by the interference of the Magistrates.

"AT THE COURT AT WHITEHALL."

"*November* 1*st*, 1688."

"The *King's most excellent Majesty* in *Council*. Whereas, in his Majesty's late Proclamation, issued for restoring Corporations to their ancient charters, liberties, rights, and franchises, the ancient Corporation and Body Corporate of the city of *Exeter* is one of those therein excepted, upon a supposition that the deed of surrender by them made to his late Majesty was recorded; but upon farther examination, and producing the said deed of surrender, it appearing that the same never was recorded, his Majesty in Council, (designing the same benefit to the said city, and the ancient Corporation thereof, as to other cities in the said Proclamation not excepted) in pursuance to the power reserved to his Majesty in the Charter of Incorporation lately granted to the said city, is pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered, that the Mayor, Sheriff, Recorder, Town-Clerk, Aldermen, Common Councilmen, and all and every other Magistrate, Officer, and Minister of or in the said city, be and they are hereby removed, displaced, and discharged, of and from the said offices, magistracies, and places; saving and reserving to them, and every of them, such right, privilege, place, or office, as they have or lawfully may claim by the ancient charter or franchises of the said city: and it is further ordered, that the Mayor, Sheriff, Aldermen, Recorder, Town-Clerk, Common Councilmen, and all and every other minister and officer of the said city, that were such at the time of the sealing of the said deed of surrender, do take upon them the execution of their respective offices and magistracies, and proceed to make due elections, and to act and do as they lawfully might if no such deed had ever been had or made."

The city's charter restored.

"*PHILIP MUSGRAVE.*"

This order, on account of the dissensions occasioned by the Revolution, was not immediately put in execution; but soon after *Christopher Broderidge, Esq.* was reinstated in the office of Mayor, and on the 8th of December *Christopher Bale, Esq.* was elected for the residue of the year.

The old Mayor reinstated; a new one chosen.

The kingdom of *Ireland* espousing the cause of the abdicated King, a rebellion broke out, and most part of that island (a few garrisons in the north only excepted) declared in favour of King *James:* the *French* King sent a large army to their assistance, and therefore orders were sent to different parts of *England* for levying troops; and a commission for raising a

A regiment of foot raised in Exeter.

CHAP. IV.

regiment of foot being sent to *Exeter*, many gentlemen of the city and the neighbouring country accepting commissions therein, the regiment was soon completed and sent to *Ireland*, where they behaved with great bravery.*

About the latter end of the seventeenth century one *Moses Pitts*, a Bookseller, attempted an investigation of the different prisons throughout *England* and *Wales*, and procured various accounts from the principal goals, collected generally from some of the resident prisoners. This collection he caused to be printed; and from the said book the following extracts of the wretched state of the goal belonging to the county of *Devon* follow verbatim:—

A. D. 1690. Wretched state of the county Goal.

"From *Stock* (probably *Stoke*) in the county of *Devon*, 18th November, 1690.—The goal in the county of *Devon* is kept at *Stock*, above three miles from any town, in a small village. The house is very small for such a number of men and women as are there—the goaler puts three or four beds in a chamber, and three persons in every narrow bed, that they have not room to turn themselves. Every particular person pays two shillings and sixpence per week, so that their chambers are twice as dear as any in the King's Bench or Fleet. Besides the misery of being so thronged, there is not nigh as much room again in the chambers as the beds take up. The prisoners have been denied their victuals to be brought into the house, and their laundresses were kept out for a month, that the prisoners were forced to put all things out of the window. There is no other drink allowed but ale, of six, eight, and ten days old—the goaler sells to the tapster for forty-three shillings per hogshead, and the tapster will sell little more than a pint for two-pence, which we can have stronger from abroad for one penny; but the prisoners dare not send for it, if the keeper lie in the way, nor have it brought in at the door, but put in to them at the window, in small quantities. Several have perished for want—one *Fursden* was starved to death, according to the return the jury gave the coroner, one *Mr. Wills*,

* In this Irish war the *Rev. Mr. Walker*, a native of this city, gave signal proofs of his bravery and zeal for the Protestant religion. The city of *Londonderry* being besieged by King *James*, at the head of a numerous army, and the garrison being most cowardly deserted by its governor, at the desire of the garrison and inhabitants this gentleman took upon himself the government, and made a most remarkable and gallant defence during the siege, in which the inhabitants were reduced by famine and sickness to the greatest distress: he acted in a three-fold capacity; preaching in the morning, then presiding in judicial matters, and in the afternoon visiting the fortifications, exhorting the soldiers, and oftentimes heading the sallies which were made on the besiegers; in short, by his exemplary conduct and prudence, he prevented that important fortress from falling into the hands of the enemy, and preserved the north of *Ireland*. This gentleman was slain by a musket ball, at the battle of the *Boyne*, on the 1st of July, 1690, greatly regretted by King *William*, and all the army.

who did not make a due return of the said *Fursden*, as of others. And also *David Hart* and *John Soper* were put in irons for no other reason but because they put their names as witnesses to an indictment against *Alexander Symons*, the keeper, for murthering a prisoner in November, 1688. That he kept the said *Hart* so long in irons, that it had liked to have cost him his life. The said keeper is a butcher by trade, and keeps twenty or thirty hogs in a court, within twenty feet of the kitchen door. The keeper frequently intercepts the prisoners' letters, and either burns them or throws them into the river, that they are forced to send all their letters of concern by private hands, which costs the prisoners ten pounds per annum; that they have but one house or office for nigh seventy people; and that is uncovered, and is very noisome, as is the house and yard, being low and level, so that strangers complain when they come it almost takes away their breath. To all these particulars I am ready to make oath. Witness my hand this 18th November, 1690."

"*JOHN WHITBURROUGH.*"

A. D. 1692.

The Right Honourable the Earl of *Danby* was presented with the freedom of this city.

The French fleet destroyed at the battle of Le Hogue.

On the 29th of May great rejoicings were made for the glorious victory gained by the British fleet over that of the French King, off *Cape le Hogue*, in *Normandy*, on the 19th of this month; in which the *French* lost nineteen of their largest ships, besides their Admiral, and a great number of transports, which were burnt: this fatal blow almost ruined the *French* navy, and put a stop to their invasion of this kingdom.

1694. The water engine erected.

The utility of having the water from the river *Exe* conveyed to the houses of this city being taken into consideration by the Chamber, an act of parliament was procured, and an engine for that purpose erected (at the head of the new leat) on a very ingenious model, which, notwithstanding the elevated situation of the city, plentifully supplies (by the help of wooden pipes) such inhabitants who, on the payment of an annual rent, are desirous of being furnished therewith.

1696. A Mint established in this city.

The bad state of the silver coin requiring the interference of the legislature, six new Mints were established, by an act of parliament, one of which was placed in this city; the Chamber granting for that purpose part of *Hele's* (or the *Blue Maid's*) *Hospital;* where furnaces were erected, and an Assay Master and proper officers appointed. In this Mint a large quantity of silver was coined, all which may be distinguished by having the letter E placed under the bust.

Queen Mary's death.

Queen *Mary* died of the small pox, on the 28th of December, greatly regretted by the King and the whole nation.

1697.

A patent, under the common seal of this city, was granted

CHAP. IV. to *James*, Duke of *Ormond*, to be Lord High Steward thereof; he likewise was admitted to the freedom of the city. This year, on September 10th, the famous Peace of *Ryswick*, which secured to King *William* the quiet possession of the three kingdoms of *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*, as also the restitution of his principality of *Orange*, was signed; and on the 29th of the same month peace was proclaimed at the usual places in this city. Notwithstanding this treaty, so lately signed, the perfidy of *Lewis* XIV. King of *France*, concerning the *Spanish* succession, again set *Europe* in a flame; and King *William* preparing to revenge himself on this perfidious Monarch was prevented by a fall from his horse, near *Hampton Court*, which occasioned his death, on the 8th of March, 1702. The death of this Prince was greatly lamented by his Protestant subjects, as he was a zealous defender of both their civil and ecclesiastical liberties, as well as the Protector of *Europe* from the encroachments of the perfidious *French* Monarch.

Peace of Ryswick.

A. D. 1702. Death of King William.

On the death of the King the crown (by the act of succession) devolved to his sister-in-law, the Princess *Anne*, second daughter to the abdicated King *James*, and wife of *George*, Prince of *Denmark*.

The Trade of this city greatly increased through the Revolution.

The city of *Exeter* enjoyed a share, with the rest of the British empire, in the good effects of the Revolution; its foreign trade greatly increased, and liberty of conscience being tolerated to christians of all denominations, encouraged many foreign merchants to settle here, which enlarged its correspondence, and opened new markets for its woollen manufactures; ships sailing every year with cargoes of woollen and other goods to most parts of the world, even to *Turkey* and the *West Indies*. And a sugar-house and glass-house were built between this city and *Topsham*, which employed a great many labourers, to the general benefit of the country.

MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of King William III.

1689.
John Snell.
Edward Cross, resigned.
Gilbert Yard.
Edward Bamfield.
John Pyle.
John Monkley.

1690.
Edward Cross.
Richard Peryam.
Richard Pounsford.
William Arnold.
John Newcombe.

1691.
Edward Seaward.
John Burell.
Francis Lydstone.
Joshua Hickman.
William Hibbert.

1692.
Christopher Coke.
William Bollithoe.
Richard Smith.
Roger Prowse.
Joseph Hussey.

1693.
John Gandy.
Daniel Ivie.
John Gandy, Jun.

James Kingwell.
George Cary.

1694.
Robert Dabynott.
Isaac Gibbs.
Richard Atwill.
John Vicary.
Clement Weekes.

1695.
Gilbert Yard.
John Monkley.
Edward Spicer.
Daniel Slade.
Emanuel Hole.

1696.
Christopher Bale.
Joshua Hickman.
Edward Cheeke.
William Carthew.
Richard Veale.

1697.
John Curson.
George Yard.
John Hornbrooke.
Thomas Bury.
John Gilbert.

1698.
John Burell.
Edward Dally.
William Gandy.
Christopher Gird.
John Bolt.

1699.
Joshua Hickman.
John Gandy.
Jacob Rowe.
Philip Pear.
William Pitfield.

1700.
John Snell.
John Newcombe.
Nath. Dewdney.
Edward Allen.
John Dell.

1701.
John Cholwell.
Oliver Mostyn.
Robert Lydston.
Alexander Sampson.
Thomas Robinson.

A. D. 1702. Queen Anne.

Queen *Anne* was proclaimed in this city on March 13th, 1702; and immediately on her accession to the throne declared her resolution of pursuing the plan formed by her predecessor, of curbing the exorbitant pride and power of the French Monarch, and securing the liberties of *Europe* from his encroachments; accordingly a war, which was declared in this city, May 8th, 1702, proved glorious to the British nation, as it was attended with an almost uninterrupted series of prosperities, victories, and triumphs, which humbled the pride of *France*, and almost annihilated her navy.

War declared against France.

This year *Sir William Courtenay, Bart.* and *Robert Rolle, Esq.* were returned Knights of the Shire for the county of *Devon;* and *Sir Edward Seymour, Bart.* and *John Snell, Esq.* representatives in parliament for this city.

The Earl of *Rochester* coming to *Exeter* was complimented with the freedom thereof: during his stay (which was for several days) he was elegantly entertained by the Mayor.

1703. A great storm of wind.

On the 26th of November, this year, about eleven at night, a terrible storm of wind arose, which did incredible damage throughout most parts of *England*, mostly on the coasts, where a great number of ships were wrecked, and many thousands of men drowned: this hurricane continued with great violence until four o'clock the next morning; in this city many houses were unroofed, stacks of chimneys blown down, and trees torn up by the roots, particularly in *St. Peter's Church-yard*, where

CHAP. IV. a row of large elms, of nearly one hundred years' growth, were mostly destroyed.*

A. D. 1704. The beginning of September, this year, news arriving of the glorious victory obtained over the *French*, by the Duke of *Marlborough*, at *Blenheim*, occasioned great rejoicings in this city.

Sir Edward Seymour, *Baronet*, who had filled the office of Recorder of *Exeter* for many years, resigned it on account of his great age; and *Sir Nicholas Hooper*, *Knight*, was elected in his room.

In the year 1699 an act of parliament was procured for the the better employment and maintenance of the poor inhabitants of this city and county, and the next year a new Workhouse was begun, on an elevated and healthy spot of ground, in the parish of *St. Sidwell*, which was carried on with such vigour, that in the same year the central part of the building was finished; but the whole was not completed till the year 1707, at a very great expence to the Citizens. This building forms a large quadrangle, open towards the south: the centre contains a handsome chapel, (terminated by a cupola, in which is a clock and dial) convenient apartments for the governor, different offices for the use of the house, and spacious rooms for the meeting of committees; the wings, which extend to a great length, are divided into wards or ranges, which are kept clean and wholesome, and are spacious enough to contain several hundred paupers; behind which are buildings designed for the better accommodation of those who, having lived in credit, are reduced through misfortunes to apply to their parishes for relief. There are likewise workshops and other conveniences, with a spacious green in front, planted with rows of trees, where the poor inhabitants may both take the air and recreate themselves. A Chaplain is also provided, who preaches every Sunday, and reads prayers twice in every week, when each pauper, if not bedridden, is obliged to attend. The whole building, green, and gardens, are surrounded by a lofty brick wall; and at the time of its erection was esteemed the first building of its kind in *England*.

1707. New Workhouse built.

Description of the Workhouse

Government of the Workhouse and Poor of Exeter. The government of this house is invested in forty Citizens, who are termed Guardians of the Poor, and are chosen at the different Wardmotes, for life, (unless incapacitated through infirmity or insolvency) by the inhabitants of the respective wards,

* The remaining elms were felled by order of the Dean and Chapter, for the sake of uniformity, and lime trees planted in their room; but these not thriving most of them were grubbed up, and standing elms planted.

who pay two pence per week in their own right towards the poor-rates; these, with the Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen, for the time being, are invested with full power of levying such rates on the different parishes and precincts, within the city and county, as the necessities of the poor may require, which are collected by the different Overseers, and paid to the Treasurer, who is annually elected by and from the forty Guardians. This body corporate has the sole government and management of the poor within the city and county of *Exeter*.

A. D. 1708. Charity Schools founded in Exeter through the instigation of Bishop Blackall.

This year is memorable for an institution which reflects immortal honour on its pious author, *Dr. Offspring Blackall*, Bishop of this Diocess: this worthy Prelate observing with great concern that numbers of poor children in this city and neighbourhood, either through the inability or negligence of their parents, were bred up in a very illiterate manner, and without any instruction of their duty as christians, either to God or their neighbour, preached a sermon on the occasion, in which he strongly recommended the duty of charity, and the benefits occurring to the community at large, by rescuing from ignorance and providing for the education of the children of their poor neighbours, and by erecting public Schools for that purpose; his Lordship also sent a circular letter to the clergy of his Diocess, exhorting them to promote this work of piety and charity. This sermon was blessed with its desired effects; for the very next day a great number of the inhabitants of this city entered into a subscription for the institution of the charitable purposes therein recommended, and they were greatly assisted by the resident and other clergy, the Dean and Chapter granting towards its support the money arising from a donation of *Sub-Chanter Sylke's*, which wa sgiven for the purpose of maintaining lights in the Cathedral, during the afternoon service, from Allhallow-tide to Candlemas. The Chamber also greatly promoted this pious work, not only as individuals, but by a large benefaction from their public stock; and granted part of the Blue Maids' Hospital, in *St. Mary Arches Lane*, for the use of one of the Girls' schools; thus, through the well timed benevolence of people of all ranks and denominations, four Schools were established in this city, two of which were appointed for boys, and two for girls, each consisting of fifty children. The Masters were allowed a salary of thirty pounds per annum, each, with a convenient house of residence; and the Mistresses twenty-five pounds, with a house each: the boys are instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic, so as to

And by the voluntary subscriptions of the Citizens.

The Chapter great benefactors to the work.

Likewise the Chamber.

* The salaries, I am informed, have been since augmented.

CHAP. IV. qualify them for the middling ranks of life; and the girls are taught to read, sew, and knit: they are all decently and comfortably new clothed, annually, at Easter, from head to foot, with the addition of new shoes and stockings every fifth day of November. They are furnished with bibles, common prayer and spelling books; and attend Divine service at the Cathedral every Wednesday and Friday, and on Festival days, at six o'clock in the morning, from Lady-day to Michaelmas; and are examined in their catechism every Sunday evening.

The benefits of this well intended institution have been happily experienced by the succeeding generations; many worthy characters have received their education through this charity, and by that means have risen to opulence and magistracy, who otherwise might have ended their days in poverty and ignorance.

Benefactions of the Charity Schools.

At the first institution of these schools the subscriptions and benefactions amounted to about £250 per annum; but since have been greatly increased by the care of the trustees, and by succeeding donations. The following benefactions having come to my knowledge—I cannot forbear mentioning them, in order to record the pious intention of the donors. In 1712, *Mr. William Eakins*, of this city, Goldsmith, by his last will and testament, gave £50 per annum, for ever, to the charity schools, for the instructing boys therein educated in the mathematics, especially navigation. In 1713, *Mr. Nathaniel Rowland*, Merchant, gave £200 for the benefit of the poor children educated in these schools. In 1721, *Richard Sandford, Gent.* a native of *Exeter*, by his last will gave £300 to be laid out in the purchase of an estate, the produce thereof to be appropriated to the benefit of the said schools.*

A. D. 1709. The Right Honourable *Lord Poulett*, *Baron*, of *Hinton St. George*, being appointed Lord-Lieutenant of the county of *Devon*, and city of *Exeter*, was admitted to the freedom of the city.

1710. In this year *Sir Coplestone Warwick Bampfylde* and *John Snell, Esquire*, were elected members of parliament for this city.

1711. The war with *France* now raged to such an height, and caused so great a loss of men, that recruits could not be procured to fill up the vacancies in the army, any otherwise than by the unconstitutional mode of pressing; and warrants for that purpose were sent to this city, which were executed by the

A very hot press.

* Many considerable benefactions to this charity have from time to time been given, too numerous to be mentioned in this work.

Constables with such rigour that they did not spare even the poor peasants, whose business brought them into the city, but forced them from their horses and sent them away immediately; this was attended with very bad consequences to the Citizens, as a general scarcity ensued, from the countrymen being thus deterred from bringing in the necessary supplies.

A. D. 1713. *John Harris* and *Nicholas Wood, Esquires*, were elected representatives in parliament for this city.

The major part of the nation, tired of a long, bloody, and expensive war, were clamorous for peace; and the Queen accordingly entering into negotiations for that purpose, a peace was concluded, and signed at *Utrecht*, on the 11th of April, 1713, which was proclaimed in this city, with the usual solemnity, on the 30th of April following.

Peace proclaimed.

1714. Death of Queen Anne. The Queen did not long enjoy the blessings of peace; she was seized with a kind of lethargy, and expired (to the great grief of her subjects) on the 1st of August, 1714; and on the same day,* *George*, Elector of *Hanover* was proclaimed King of Great Britain, &c.

MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of Queen Anne.

1702.	1705.	1708.
John Gandy.	*Thomas Barons.*	*Edward Spicer.*
Thomas Barons.	Edward Collings.	John Pyle.
William Battishill.	Thomas Jeffery.	Thomas Townsend.
Thomas Coplestone.	Benjamin Brown.	Edward Edmonds.
Charles Knolles.	John Southcombe.	Philip Bishop.

1703.	1706.	1709.
John Newcombe.	*Nicholas Wood.*	*Edward Collings.*
Edward Spicer.	Thomas Salter.	William Sandford.
Trist. Whitehair.	Hugh Palmer.	John Peryam.
James Taylor.	Benjamin Pearce.	William Drake.
William Staplehill.	Samuel Symons.	Robert Dawe.

1704.	1707.	1710.
Gilbert Wood.	*Edward Dally.*	*Thomas Salter.*
Nicholas Yard.	Jacob Rowe.	Nathaniel Dewdney.
John Elston.	James Fortescue.	John Phillips.
John Stephens.	Robert Mudge.	Anthony Tripe.
Charles Yeo.	George Langworthy.	Jasper York.

* The 1st of August being the day of accession of the present Royal Family to the throne, was for many years commemorated in this city by the ringing of the Cathedral bells.

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1711.	1712.	1713.
Joshua Hickman.	*Jacob Rowe.*	*John Newcombe.*
Philip Pear.	William Gandy.	Nathaniel Bussell.
Edmund Cock.	Hugh Shortrudge.	Arthur Culme.
Henry Gird.	Charles Ford.	William Stabback.
Clement Chessman.	Bernard Sampson.	John Brutton.

A. D. 1714. George I. proclaimed.

On the receipt of the news of the death of Queen *Anne*, *George Lewis*, Elector of *Hanover*, was proclaimed in this city, on the 4th of August, King of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, in six several places, viz: at the *Guildhall*, in *St. Peter's Church-yard*, the *Serge Market*, at the *Great Conduit*, *St. John's Bow*, and before the *New Inn*, in the *High-Street*, with great solemnity, by a Deputy-Herald at Arms, mounted on a stately horse, and dressed in his tabard, preceded by the Mayor, Aldermen, Common Councilmen, and the other city officers, in their scarlet and other robes, accompanied by the different incorporated trades, in their respective livery gowns, with their banners displayed; whilst an innumerable concourse of spectators testified their joy by repeated acclamations. The day was spent in great rejoicings, and at night there were bonfires, and grand illuminations: the gentlemen of the Chamber and the principal Citizens, at the invitation of the Mayor, met at the Guildhall, where they drank (in repeated bumpers of wine) to the health of his Majesty, and the rest of the Royal Family, and passed the evening in joyous festivity.

Great riots throughout the kingdom.

At his Majesty's coronation, which was performed October 20th, rejoicings were made throughout the kingdom, which were much disturbed by some factious persons, who committed great outrages, particularly in *London* and *Bristol*, the rioters breaking windows and pulling down several Dissenting Meeting-houses: symptoms of the like kind appeared in this city, but the timely interference of the magistrates preserved peace and tranquillity.

1715.

A new parliament having been called the election throughout the kingdom was much contested, the nation being divided into two parties, which were termed High and Low Church, or Country and Court. The contest was carried on amidst great tumult and acrimony; much blood was spilt from the broken heads and noses of the contending mobs: the dispute however was terminated in favour of the Blue, or Country party; and *John Harris* and *Nicholas Wood*, *Esquires*, were returned duly elected.

Sir William Courtenay appointed Lord-Lieutenant.

About this time the *Honourable Sir William Courtenay* was appointed Lord-Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the county

of *Devon*, and city and county of *Exeter*. The Duke of *Ormond*, Lord High Steward of *Exeter*, being attainted by parliament, and withdrawing himself from this kingdom, was deprived of his office; and his Royal Highness, *George*, Prince of *Wales*, being pleased to honour the city with his acceptance of it, a patent under the city's common seal was granted for that purpose, which was presented to his Royal Highness by *Sir Peter King*,* a native of *Exeter*, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales appointed Lord High Steward of Exeter.

The friends of the exiled family now caused great commotions throughout the kingdom, on which occasion the famous Riot Act was passed, which made it death for any tumultuous persons, to the number of twelve, to continue together for the space of one hour after proclamation being made for their dispersing.

Riot Act passed.

The *Jacobites* not being contented with sowing dissensions throughout the realm, broke out into open rebellion in *Scotland* and the *North of England*, where they proclaimed the Pretender

A rebellion in the north.

* This great and eminent lawyer was the son of *Mr. King*, a reputable grocer, in the High-Street of this city; who, designing his son for the same profession, gave him but a slender education; and, at an early age, when he had attained but very little knowledge of the classics, took him from school, in order that he might assist in the business; but young *King* paying little attention to trade, and constantly employing himself in reading such books as fell into his hands, made the old gentleman uneasy, and he often complained to his acquaintance that his son *Peter* would never be fit for any thing; however, the young man, by a strong application to his studies, attained such a degree of knowledge, that before he came to manhood he published several learned treatises, which gained him the esteem of his friends, and they prevailed on his father to send him to the University, where he studied Divinity; but wisely judging that study an unlikely road to preferment, (he having been bred a Dissenter from the established Church) he turned his thoughts to the study of the Common Law, in which he made such proficiency that he was soon called to the Bar, where he gained so much reputation that he was appointed Queen's Sergeant at Law; and from thence one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas; next Lord Chief Justice; and afterwards Lord Chancellor: his Lordship was also created, by patent, a Baron of this kingdom, by the title of *Lord King;* and this honour is still enjoyed by his descendant, the present *Lord King*. It has been reported by many aged people, who well knew the parties, that *Mr. King* intending to visit his son after he was created Lord Chancellor, being of a mercenary disposition, went on foot to *London* for that purpose; and on his arrival, being directed to his son's house, enquired for *Peter King:* this so irritated the Porter (little judging, by the meanness of his dress, the near affinity he bore to his Master) that he shut the gate against him, and a scuffle ensued betwixt them. His Lordship hearing the noise and coming to the window perceived his father, whom he instantly recollected, and hastening to the door he fell on his knees to ask his blessing; the sight of which so frightened the Porter that he fell on his knees and humbly begged for pardon; this his Lordship, after severely reprimanding him for his insolence, granted.

CHAP. IV. King of *Great Britain* and *Ireland;* on which occasion the friends to the Protestant succession entered into associations for supporting his Majesty *King George;* one for that purpose was agreed to, and signed by several hundred of the principal inhabitants and merchants of this city, by the name of the Constitutional Society: this greatly strengthened the Protestant interest, and quelled the intended insurrection in the West; and on the 9th November, the rebels being defeated at *Preston*, in *Lancashire*, tranquillity was again restored.

An Association for supporting King George formed in this city.

A. D. 1716. The *Right Honourable Lord Carteret* was appointed Lord-Lieutenant, &c. of the county of *Devon*, and city and county of *Exeter*. *Francis Drewe* and *John Bampfylde, Esquires*, were this year elected members of parliament for this city.

Bampfylde & Drewe's Election.

The close of the last year, and the beginning of this, were remarkable for a very severe frost; the *Exe* was frozen over for near six weeks, a stop put to all business, and many post-boys and others were frozen to death.

A great frost.

1719. The nation was greatly alarmed at the vast preparations made by the *French*, for the invasion of England; and the government, in order to counteract their designs, fitted out a strong fleet, and sent many regiments of horse, foot, and dragoons, into the *West of England*, three regiments of which came to *Exeter*, and encamped during the summer on *Clist Heath*.

A Camp on ClistHeath.

1721. A custom which had long been established, that of the Mayor and Chamber providing a public dinner for the Judges and Grand Jury, at the Assizes, proving very expensive, was this year discontinued; and in lieu thereof a present of wine is sent, and handsome lodgings provided for them at the Mayoralty-house during their stay in this city.

1727. His Majesty paying a visit this year to his electoral dominions, was seized with a lethargic disorder, which terminated in his death, at *Osnaburg*, on the 11th of June, in the 68th year of his age; and he was succeeded by his only son, *George*, Prince of *Wales*.

MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of George I.

1714.	1715.	1716.
John Gandy.	*William Sanford.*	*Nathaniel Dewdney.*
Thomas Coplestone.	John Phillips.	Philip Bussell.
Humphrey Bawden.	Richard Sanford.	Thomas Collings.
William Davy.	John Wallis.	Richard Jackson.
John Parsons.	Philip Elston.	Edward Martyn.

1717.	1720.	1723.
Philip Pear.	*William Gandy.*	*Philip Bussell.**
John Elston.	Humphrey Bowden.	
Sampson Hele.	William Bellew.	
Christopher Aunt.	Robert Bussell.	
James Rous.	Nicholas Lee.	
		1724.
1718.	1721.	*Humphrey Bowden.*
John Burell.	*John Phillips.*	
Arthur Culme.	Emanuel Hole.	
J. Newcombe, Jun.	Thomas Bale.	
John Kelly.	Matthew Spry.	
Thomas Somerton.	John Southard.	1725.
		Anthony Tripe.
1719.	1722.	
Thomas Coplestone.	*Thomas Salter.*	
Anthony Tripe.	Robert Lydston.	
Nathaniel Taylor.	Robert Lawe.	
Nicholas Wood.	Robert Taylor.	1726.
Lewis Potbury.	Robert Saunders.	*Emanuel Hole.*

A. D. 1727. His Majesty King George II. was proclaimed in this city on Friday, the 23d day of June, 1727. On the 7th of August the Parliament was dissolved, and a new one summoned: at the election in this city, parties ran to very great lengths; but after a smart contest *Sir Coplestone Warwick Bampfylde, Bart.* and *John Snell, Esq.* were duly elected.

1733. On the 14th March the famous, but impolitic, scheme of *Sir Robert Walpole*, for a general Excise, was brought into the House of Commons, which created a great tumult and discontent among the people. It was petitioned against by this and many other cities, and the bill was dropped, which caused great rejoicings.

1739. In August, this year, war was declared against *Spain*.

1740. This year commenced with a very severe frost, which has since been termed the *hard winter:* the cold was so very intense that the fowls and fishes were frozen to death; the poor suffered much, many of them perished through the severity of the season.

1741. Many worthy and benevolent Gentlemen, duly reflecting on the numerous accidents and disorders to which the mechanics and labouring poor are subject to, and the consequent distresses they suffer, from not having the means of obtaining medical advice and assistance, in cases of the greatest need, were Devon and Exeter Hospital.

* The list of Bailiffs, from the year 1722 to 1753, being either lost, or discontinued at the Town-Clerk's Office during that period, the author is obliged to leave this chasm in the list, for which he humbly solicits public indulgence.

CHAP. IV. Hospital.

strongly influenced to provide a proper place of reception for such unhappy objects: accordingly, through the indefatigable industry of the pious and benevolent *Dr. Alured Clarke*, Dean of this Cathedral, a meeting was appointed at the Castle, to which were invited all such who were willing to encourage so useful and charitable an institution. The first meeting of subscribers was held in the Chapter-house belonging to the Cathedral, 23d July, 1741, when a Chairman and Treasurers were elected, and many subscriptions and benefactions reported.

John Tuckfield, Esq. one of the worthy representatives for this city, generously accommodated the Governors with a convenient piece of ground, situate at the lower end of Southernhay, and all the materials on it, for erecting the Hospital; for though it was thought necessary that those lands should be formally purchased of *Mr. Tuckfield*, by the Governors, it was really a donation, he very generously giving back the whole price fixed on, as the consideration in the deed of conveyance, and was therefore recorded, by a General Court of Governors, as the most generous founder of this institution. On Thursday, the 27th August, 1741, the foundation stone was laid in a very solemn manner; on which occasion a great number of gentlemen, benefactors to this charity, assembled in the Chapter-house, (where several meetings respecting this institution had been held) from whence they went in procession to Southernhay, where a party of soldiers were drawn up, who saluted them with three volleys of small arms. The stone was then laid by *Dean Clarke*, assisted by *Humphrey Sydenham, Esq.* member for this city, and other gentlemen, who acted as proxies for *John Tuckfield, Esq.* in presence of several thousand spectators. The ceremony being ended the Dean made an excellent and solemn oration on the occasion, offering up his prayers to the Almighty for success in the undertaking, recommending to those who were in affluent circumstances the duty of assisting the poor in time of sickness, and exhorting the poor to be obedient to their superiors, and grateful to their benefactors. The Cathedral and other bells were rung on the occasion, and general gladness prevailed amongst every class of people. The building was carried on with great alacrity; and the Hospital was opened, with thirty beds, for reception of patients, the 1st of January, 1742-3. Thus, by the zealous endeavours of this excellent Divine,* the *Devon and Exeter Hospital* justly owes its foundation: an institution which will always reflect honour on its promoters. Its benefits having been so great, that before

* He had before been instrumental in the foundation of an Hospital at Winchester, in 1736.

Hospital.

Lady-day, 1805, upwards of 42,000 patients were restored to the blessings of health; and nearly 10,000 more received considerable benefit.

This Hospital, through the donations of many charitable persons, and the care of the Governors, has received great additions; and the beds for patients have at several times been augmented. In 1748 they amounted to one hundred. It does not come within the compass of this work to point out all the particular times when additions and improvements were made in the institution to the year 1790, when one hundred and eighty-four beds were open for the reception of patients. In 1796, owing to the reduced state of the finances, no less than forty-three beds were obliged to be shut up; but in 1797 a ward containing nine beds; in 1799 another of ten beds; and in 1802 a ward in which were six beds, were again re-opened, which made the number for accommodation of patients to be then one hundred and sixty-six. This establishment continued until the present year, 1805, when it was found necessary to examine into the state of the finances of this institution, and a select Committee of Governors was appointed for that purpose: in consequence whereof a report was made by them to a General Court, held on the 13th of June, "that on examining into the alarming state of the funds, they found the expenditure, on on average, for the last seven years, had exceeded the income, annually, £391 18*s.* 1*d.* though the average number of in-patients, during that period, had been only one hundred and forty." In consequence of this report it was reluctantly but unanimously resolved to reduce the patients' beds to one hundred and twenty. The report of the select Committee and the resolution of the general Court being published, a considerable number of nobility and gentry, and particularly those within the county of *Devon* and this city, came forward with large donations; many volunteer companies devoted one day's pay; friendly societies, of labouring mechanics, for support of sick members, &c. made their contributions. The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of *Exeter* (who gave a handsome benefaction himself) sent a circular letter to all his clergy, within *Devon* and *Exeter*, in which his Lordship requested them to preach in each of their churches a sermon, as soon as possible, exhorting their hearers, by every motive they could urge, to support, by their liberal and voluntary contributions, this excellent and truly christian institution. An eminent dissenting minister, of the city of *Exeter*,* likewise sent a circular letter on the same occasion to the different meeting-houses in the county of *Devon*. The contributions in consequence whereof were liberal

* Rev. James Manning.

CHAP. IV. beyond expectation; and the Governors were, on the 10th of September,* enabled to devote one hundred and forty beds to the reception of patients. Besides the in-patients, there are a great number of out-patients, (sometimes there have been upwards of two hundred) who are relieved with advice and medicines gratis. Prayers are read in some ward by one of the resident clergymen in *Exeter*, who, in weekly rotation give their attendance. The Physicians and Surgeons, who give their advice gratis, regularly visit the patients under their care; and the Apothecary, who resides in the house, attends every sick person daily, and administers such medicines as are ordered by the Physicians: in short nothing is wanting for the comfort and relief of the objects under their care.

Hospital.

A. D. 1744. On the 4th of April, 1744, a war was declared in this city against *France*.

1745. An alarming rebellion broke out this year, in *Scotland*, which threw the whole kingdom into great consternation: the young Pretender having landed in that kingdom. Many associations were formed for the support of his Majesty and the present government, at the hazard of their lives and fortunes: but the retreat of the rebels into *Scotland*, and their total defeat, on the 16th of April, 1746, by the Duke of *Cumberland*, at the battle of *Culloden*, put a stop to the apprehensions of the people, and restored domestic tranquillity.

His Majesty, in return for the loyalty of the Citizens of *Exeter*, was graciously pleased to send them a letter of thanks, couched in the warmest terms.

His Majesty, on the 18th of June, dissolved the parliament, and a new one being summoned, *Humphrey Sydenham* and *John Tuckfield, Esquires*, were duly elected for this city.

On April the 19th, 1748, preliminary articles of peace were signed by the contending powers, and in July following the definitive treaty was concluded, to the great joy of the whole nation. Great celebrations were made here on the occasion; splendid fireworks were exhibited on the Friars, at the expence of *Mr. Claude Passavant*, an eminent merchant, to the amount of £500.

1752. An act was this year passed for the more speedy execution of murderers and delivering their bodies to the surgeons to be anatomized. The first person executed on this act in *Exeter* was *Mr. Huish*, a gentleman of some fortune, who had served an apprenticeship in this city, with *Mr. Arundel*, a capital serge maker; but turning out very wild, and undutiful to his parents, (who lived at *Cheriton Fitzpayne*) he was accused of poisoning his father, and beating his mother to death; the

* A motion was this day made for establishing a fever ward, which was seconded, but after some discussion it was withdrawn.

first of these crimes he was acquitted of, on his trial, but found guilty of the second, for which he was executed at *Heavitree Gallows*, and his body sent to the *Devon* and *Exeter Hospital*, where it was anatomized: his bones remained there in the cupola for many years, (a striking example to all parricides) until they mouldered into dust.

A.D. 1754.

The King this year dissolved the parliament, and writs were issued for electing a new one. The contest in this city ran very high; great opposition being made against *Humphrey Sydenham, Esq.* one of the representatives in the last parliament, on account of the decisive part he took in carrying in the bill and voting for the naturalization of the Jews; consequently he lost his election, and *John Tuckfield* and *John Rolle Walter, Esquires*, were duly returned.

A great riot happening in *St. Sidwell's*, where some evil disposed persons, on the 10th of June, (being the Pretender's birth day) decorated the sign of the Poltimore Inn with white roses, which being judged a mark of disaffection to the government, some soldiers belonging to the 4th regiment of foot (then quartered in *Exeter)* pulled down the sign post, with the obnoxious badges thereon; immediately a great tumult ensued, and many persons were severely hurt; but the magistrates interfering, many of the rioters were apprehended and committed to *South-gate*, and after being convicted of the said offence were punished by fines and imprisonment. About this time also several of the inhabitants making themselves foolishly conspicuous, by wearing white roses on the 10th of June, were taken into custody; and one *Mark Farley*, for printing a seditious song, was imprisoned in *South-gate*, where he was confined for many years.

1755. The great earthquake at Lisbon.

On the 1st of November, 1755, a most dreadful earthquake happened at *Lisbon*, which laid that city in ruins, and destroyed upwards of 10,000 of its inhabitants; the news of which very much alarmed the merchants of *Exeter*, who had great connexions and property there; but their loss, which was very considerable, did not prevent them from expressing their philanthropy, and entering into subscriptions for sending relief to the distressed inhabitants; accordingly two ships were sent from this port, laden with provisions, household furniture, and other necessaries, which arrived safe, to the great comfort of the afflicted *Portuguese*.

1756.

On Friday, the 22d of May, 1756, war was declared again in this city against *France*.

1757. Provisions greatly advanced in price.

The war having greatly increased the price of provisions, and the poor being unable to purchase the necessaries of life at the advanced prices, subscriptions were opened in *Exeter*, and a

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The poor relieved by collections.

considerable sum of money collected for their relief; large quantities of wheat, rice, and flour, were purchased, and sold at the different churches to the poor of the respective parishes, at reduced prices, which greatly alleviated their distresses.

A. D. 1758. Militia embodied at Exeter.

An act of parliament having lately been passed for forming a national Militia, it was this year put in force, and 1,600 men (the quota to be raised by the county of *Devon* and city of *Exeter*) were formed into four battalions; the head quarters of the eastern regiment was fixed at *Exeter*, where they accordingly rendezvoused, and after being disciplined, marched, under the command of their Lieutenant-Colonel, *Sir Richard Warwick Bampfylde*, to *Tavistock*. The great benefit accruing to the nation from the establishment of a Militia is evident, as it gives an opportunity of sending considerable bodies of our regular troops on foreign expeditions.

An act of parliament for the better government of the poor. 1761.

March 23d, 1758, a new act of parliament was passed for explaining and amending the act of the 9th and 10th of King *William* III. for the better employment and maintenance of the poor of this city.

This year writs were issued for summoning a new parliament, and a great contest ensued at the election for this city: the members in the late parliament, *John Tuckfield* and *John Rolle Walter, Esquires*, were opposed by *William Mackworth Praed, Esq.* and *Sir Thomas Sewell, Knight;* the two first were supported by the interest of both the Chamber and Church, and the High Church or Country party; the other by the Merchants in general, the Dissenters, and by those who were termed the Low Church: the contest ran very high, and the opposite parties expressed the greatest acrimony against each other; at the beginning of the poll the mob in favour of *Messrs. Praed* and *Sewell* got possession of all the avenues to the hustings, and prevented the votes of the other party from polling; the managers for *Messrs. Tuckfield* and *Walter*, in order to counteract these unfair proceedings, very injudiciously sent into the country for their labourers and dependants, who, to the number of four hundred men, came the next morning into the city, armed with mop-staves, and took possession of the Guildhall; this so irritated some of the Merchants that they sent a messenger to order up the crew of the *Exeter Greenland ship*, then lying at *Lympstone*, and such other sailors as they could collect; these, to the number of between fifty and sixty, parading into the city, with flags flying and a drum beating before them, were soon joined by a large mob of the Citizens, who proceeded to the Guildhall, when a desperate conflict ensued,

Parties run very high.

Desperate conflict between the contending mobs.

the sailors falling on the poor ill-advised countrymen, beat them so desperately that they were soon driven from their station, and forced to fly for shelter in every direction; many of them were dangerously wounded, and one of them (reported to be *Mr. Tuckfield's* gardener) died of his wounds. These disorders putting a stop to the election, an agreement was made by the contending parties for proceeding in a more peaceable manner, when the poll again commenced, and at its final close *John Tuckfield* and *John Rolle Walter, Esquires*, having a very decided majority, were returned duly elected.

His Majesty King *George* II. suddenly departed this life, at his Palace of *Kensington*, on Saturday morning, the 25th of October, 1760, deeply regretted by his subjects, by whom he was greatly beloved; and the next day his grandson, *George*, Prince of *Wales*, (our present most gracious Sovereign) was proclaimed in *London* King of *Great Britain, France*, and *Ireland*.

MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of George II.

1727.	1731.	1735.
John Elston.	*Ethelred Davy.*	*Matthew Spry.*
1728.	1732.	1736.
Robert Lidstone.	*Richard Vivian.*	*Samuel Symonds.*
1729.	1733.	1737.
William Stabback.	*Samuel Symonds.*	*Arthur Culme.*
1730.	1734.	1738.
Nathaniel Dewdney.	*John Newcombe.*	*Thomas Heath.*

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1739.	1746.	1753.
Nicholas Blake.	*Matthew Spry.*	*John Luckett.*
		Joseph Elliott.
		Edward Walker.
		Nicholas Jackson.
		George Midgyett.
1740.	1747.	1754.
Nicholas Lee.	*John Manley.*	*Nicholas Arthur.*
		Richard Densham.
		John Flood.
		John Cave.
		Henry Flood.
1741.	1748.	1755.
William Newcombe.	*Lewis Portbury.*	*Lewis Portbury.*
		Richard Jackson.
		Benjamin Godfrey.
		William Ley.
		Thomas Brown.
1742.	1749.	1756.
Nicholas Medland.	*Thomas Heath.*	*William Trosse.*
		Samuel Pearse.
		Charles Pearse.
		Thomas Flood.
		John Williams.
1743.	1750.	1757.
Philip Elston.	*William Trosse.*	*Joseph Elliott.*
		Samuel Dix.
		Thomas Dodge.
		Joseph Johnson.
		John Churchill.
1744.	1751.	1758.
John Hawker.	*Nicholas Lee.*	*Richard Densham.*
		Edward Walker.
		Christopher Burnett.
		James Grant, Jun.
		John White.
1745.	1752.	1759.
Francis Brayne.	*Robert Dodge, Ob.*	*Richard Jackson.*
	Nicholas Lee.	Gregory Jackson.

John Gattey.	1760.	Edward Manly.	CHAP. IV.
Isaac Sercombe.	*Samuel Pierce.*	Matthew Skinner.	
John Hayward.	Jacob Rowe.	Moses Hern.	

King *George* III. (whom *God long preserve* to be a blessing to his subjects) was proclaimed in this city on the 29th day of October, with great solemnity and rejoicings. George III. A. D. 1760.

The war, which had been glorious and successful on the part of the British nation, whose arms were victorious in every quarter of the globe, was now terminated, and peace was proclaimed; though not upon such terms as were satisfactory to the generality of the people. 1763. Peace proclaimed.

Twelve new alms-houses, for poor decayed freemen, were built and endowed by the Chamber, on the city walls, near *North-gate:* these are comfortable habitations, consisting of an under and upper room each, with convenient places behind, supplied with water from the river; and the endowment consists of *Two Shillings and Sixpence weekly to each poor resident.* Twelve new alms-houses built by the Chamber.

Soon after the settlement of the peace an act of parliament was passed for laying a heavy tax upon cider, which subjected both the grower and dealer in that necessary article to the unconstitutional and disagreeable visitation of the Excise Officers. This tax caused a great murmuring in the cider counties, and was likely to be attended with disagreeable consequences, most people expressing their dissatisfaction in very plain terms, particularly in this city: on the Thanksgiving-day for the peace, when the Mayor went to the Cathedral, according to custom, not a single member of the Chamber attended him; and during the time of Divine service an apple tree and empty hogshead, decorated with black streamers, and labels, inscribed with *Excise the first Fruits of Peace,* were paraded through the streets in a cart: and in the evening those who illuminated their houses had the same legend in transparent paintings. This tax, which at first was estimated would produce £70,000 per annum, the first year scarcely realized half that sum; but in the next, which was more productive of fruit, about £50,000 was raised by it. Many farmers grubbed up their orchards, and it was feared the landed interest would be greatly hurt; strenuous endeavours were made to get the act repealed; and several well written tracts were published, strongly representing the consequences that would ensue if it were not repealed, and forcibly reprobating it; one of which, written by *Benjamin Heath, Esq.* Town-Clerk of this city, described its fatal effects in the most poignant language. Many petitions were sent to the Tax on Cider. Occasions great discontent in this city.

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House of Commons, and instructions to the members for those places most immediately concerned, praying relief; and on the 31st January, 1765, at a meeting held at the Guildhall for that purpose, a petition was agreed to, and signed by the Mayor, the gentlemen of the Chamber, and most of the principal inhabitants. The *Right Rev. and Hon. Dr. Frederick Keppel*, who had for some time been appointed Bishop of *Exeter*, coming down about this period, and it having been reported that he had voted for the cider tax, was not received with the usual eclát; the mob hissed and insulted him, and one fellow had the assurance to throw an apple at his head.

A petition from Exeter praying for a repeal of the cider tax.

A. D. 1765.

The Bishop insulted.

A great fire near Northernhay style.

A terrible fire broke out on Friday, the 6th of February, between the hours of eleven and twelve at night, at the workshop of *Messrs. Harold and Cank*, Coachmakers, near *Northernhay-style*, which in a short time entirely consumed the shop and dwelling-house, with all their stock in trade, books of accounts, several new carriages, and most of the workmen's tools.

1766. W. Spicer, Esq. chosen M. P. in room of Mr. Tuckfield.

The latter end of this year died *John Tuckfield, Esq.* one of the representatives of this city in parliament. He was truly regretted by his constituents, from his upright conduct as a senator, his unbounded charity, and zealous attachment to the interest of his country. *William Spicer, Esq.* was elected, without any opposition, in his place.

Cider tax repealed.

The ministry finding the cider tax not so productive as was at first imagined, listened to the great number of petitions which had been presented for its repeal: the request was acceded to in this session of parliament, and there were great rejoicings in *Exeter* on the occasion.

Coins, &c. found in St. Sidwell's. 1768.

In digging for the foundation of the present house and workshops of *Mr. Harold*, Coachmaker, opposite *Paris-street*, in a deep pit, surrounded with bricks, and covered over with stones and loose earth, the workmen found some old plate, many gold, and several hundred silver coins, supposed to have been concealed there in the grand Rebellion, as they consisted mostly of *James* and *Charles* I. coins, none being of a later date. The houses which formerly stood on this ground were burnt in those troubles, and not again rebuilt. The gentlemen of the Chamber demanded the whole as *treasuretrove*, and recovered a great part.

Improvements began in Exeter.

The spirit of improvement began now to manifest itself in this city, and it may justly date its beginning from the public spirit of *William Mackworth Praed, Esq.* who coming into possession of an estate in the *High-street*, (formerly the *Green Dragon Inn, &c.*) opposite *St. Lawrence's Church*, and finding

THE ANCIENT NORTH GATE OF EXETER.

it in a ruinous condition, rebuilt the houses in a more modern style: and the want of a commodious room for holding public balls, assemblies, concerts, &c. being much complained of, the same gentleman built the *Hotel*, in *St. Peter's Church-yard*, in which he erected a large and elegant room for those purposes. Before this period the assemblies, &c. were held at the *Vine Tavern*, in a very inconvenient and irregular room, (now *Mr. Dyer's* library) and the concerts in the hall belonging to the College of Vicars Choral.

Tower of St. Mary Major partly taken down.

The tower of St. Mary Major* being in a ruinous state, and the upper part declining from the perpendicular, near two feet over its base, it was thought necessary (to prevent the accidents that might accrue from its fall) to take down the upper part of it, which was done to near forty feet, and the present cupola erected in its place; and towards defraying the expences thereof the parishioners sold five of their bells.

A. D. 1769. North-gate taken down.

The great increase of wheel carriages made it necessary to improve the avenues into this city, and particularly that from the north; that ancient bulwark the *North-gate*† (which had often prevented the entrance of besieging enemies, withstood many a storm, and was no doubt erected in the *Saxon* era) was taken down, together with several houses outside it; and in order to ease the declivity of the hill, the deep ravine without was filled up, a lofty wall erected, the present road made, and a row of brick houses built on the left hand of the entrance into the city.

Duke of Bedford visits Exeter.

The Duke of *Bedford*, who had made himself obnoxious to the people, by consenting, as reported, to a secret article in the late treaty of peace, by which the *French* were allowed to import their silk and other manufactures into this kingdom, on the 19th of July, 1769, paid a visit to this city, (the first after his appointment to the Lord-Lieutenancy of the county of *Devon*, and city of *Exeter*) and was very ill treated by the populace: on coming out of the Guildhall (where he went to receive the freedom of the city) the mob insulted him with

Insulted by the populace.

* The reader will see a particular account of this ancient building in the descriptive part.

† This gate, from its singular construction, bore evident marks of great antiquity; it had no flanking bulwarks, but projected from the wall, with two small curtains, in which were stairs that led to two guard-rooms; they had orillons for the defenders to discharge their missile weapons on any attack of the enemy; on the top of the gate was a square platform, with a lofty battlemented curtain. There were no remains of armorial bearings or sculptures, which is another proof of antiquity; on the top was also a vane, which now surmounts the Wharfinger's Office, at the Quay. The interior was occupied as a public-house, which (from the darkness of its rooms) was ironically termed hell.

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hisses, so much that the Mayor with his officers were obliged to protect and conduct him to Bampfylde-house; from thence he went to the Castle, where he received fresh insults; he then proceeded in his coach to the Cathedral; the Bishop, Clergy, and Choir waited to receive and pay him the customary honours, but as soon as he alighted there was great confusion, the mob rushed upon him, dispersed his attendants, and it was with extreme difficulty he got into the Choir unhurt. They likewise insulted the Bishop; and the *Rev. Mr. Chanter Snow*, being infirm, was thrown down, and miraculously escaped with his life. His grace, to escape the fury of the populace, went by a back way into the Bishop's Palace, where he remained until the evening, when the mob had dispersed.

A.D. 1770. The city's charter renewed, and more Justices added to the quorum.

His Majesty this year was graciously pleased to renew and confirm the privileges of this city. By his charter, granted to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of this city of *Exeter*, in the tenth year of his reign, dated 25th of April, 1770, the Mayor, Recorder, and seven senior Aldermen, were made Justices of the Quorum.

New road to the Castle. Foundation of the ancient draw-bridge, and several Roman coins, discovered.

The passage from the *High-Street* to the *Castle* being very narrow and dangerous for wheel carriages, the ancient avenue was again opened; several houses were taken down to enlarge it, and thus a view of the venerable *Saxon* entrance to the *Castle*, which before was obscured, opened to the *High-street:* the old gate was taken down and a new one built, over which was placed a sham portcullis. In levelling the road the foundation of the ancient draw-bridge which crossed the fosse was discovered; and the present gateway was built with the stones of it: several brass *Roman* coins were found, particularly one of *Nero*, two of *Constantinus*, and one of *Alectus*, in good preservation.

Great conduit taken down.

The great Conduit at *Carfoix*, venerable for its antiquity, which had been standing near three hundred years, and had often poured wine to the rejoicing Citizens, now fell a victim to modern improvers. Its situation, in the centre of the *High-street*, not only intercepted the view, but frequently caused a stoppage of carriages, to the great inconvenience of the neighbouring inhabitants, and danger of passengers; for this reason, sentence being passed upon it, it was taken down, and a new building erected, to which the cistern was removed.*

* This was originally a very beautiful edifice. It was decorated with pinnacles at the four corners, on which were (anciently) vanes; but they have long since fallen victims to time and weather; there were also niches in

THE OLD CONDUIT.

EXETER

THE OLD BRIDGE EXETER.

The intricate and inconvenient entrance into the city over the *Old Bridge* (by which all carriages and travellers were obliged to enter at *West-gate*, and to avoid the steep ascent of *Fore-street-hill* proceed commonly by the way of *Rock-lane*) made an alteration absolutely necessary: accordingly a plan was drawn for building a *New Bridge*, in a line from the bottom of *Fore-street*, across part of *Exe-Island*, a little above the old one; the expences to be paid by an additional toll at the turnpikes. An act of parliament having been passed for this purpose, the first stone was laid October 4th, 1770, in the presence of many thousand spectators, by the *Right Worshipful John Floud, Esq.* then *Mayor* of the city of *Exeter*, under the direction of a *Mr. Dixon*, an Architect, from *London*, and the building proceeded with great rapidity, when an unlucky accident put a stop to it: the arch on *St. Thomas's* side was completely finished, and the greater part of the centre arch turned, when suddenly, a flood happening, the whole fell down, owing to the negligence of the Architect, in not having a proper foundation for the piers, and not striking the centres, which penning back the water caused a great pressure on the piers; and the *Old Bridge* must have shared the same fate if timely precautions had not been taken in clearing the arches from the wreck of the centres, which beat against them with great violence, and made the whole fabric shake. This disaster not only greatly increased the expence, but put a stop to the building, as it required much time to recover the stones which had fallen into deep water. *Mr. Dixon* being discharged from the work, *Mr. John Goodwin*, who had been an assistant to the former, undertook to complete the work. Well acquainted with the errors of his predecessor, he proceeded in a very different manner: he turned the course of the river by erecting a strong dam and cutting a canal at the foot of the *Old Bridge;* and to prevent the water from penning back, he caused another bay to be built below the first; and then, by the assistance of chain and other pumps, he effectually cleared the bed of the river, and laid a firm foundation on the solid rock.* In the course

First stone of the New Bridge laid

The New Bridge falls

The building again commenced

the east and west fronts, in which were mutilated statues. On the top of the architrave, at the corners, were two lions and two unicorns. (These must have been placed long after the erection of the edifice, as it was well known that the unicorn was substituted in the room of a dragon, as a supporter to the British arms, by King James I.) It was likewise adorned with cherubims and armorial bearings, which were so much injured by time that only those of the *Courtenay* family could be distinguished.

* The arches gave way 16th January, 1775; and the first stone of the new foundation was laid, by the *Rev. Mr. Chancellor Nutcombe*, 15th July, 1776.

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The New Bridge finished.

of a few years the building was completed, to the great credit of the Architect, who had many difficulties to encounter. In some places it was necessary to elevate the ground near forty feet, in order to form a level; and arches were turned over the mill leats and avenues into the *Island* and *Bonhay*. At the bottom of *Fore-street*, directly in the way of the intended opening, stood the tower and remains of the parish church of *St. Allhallows on the Walls*,* which was taken down: in short, though this undertaking was attended with the expence of near £30,000, the great improvements made by it counterbalances the expenditure, as the entrance from the west (which was before infamous and dangerous) now gives a view of the city and neighbouring country which can scarcely be parallelled at the entrance of any city or town in this kingdom. As soon as the new bridge was completed the greater part of the old one† was taken down, as far as the houses at the eastern end, and a road made from the new bridge to that part of the old left standing, a great conveniency to such people as have occasion to go to the southern parts of the city.

The Old Bridge taken down.

A. D. 1772. Twelve Alms-houses built on Northern-hay.

Some estates which had long been withheld from the Chamber falling into their hands, they, according to the will of the donor, erected twelve alms-houses, neat and convenient, which at first they endowed with two shillings, but since with four shillings, per week. They stand in a pleasant and healthy situation, at the lower end of *Northernhay*, and enjoy every conveniency, water being conveyed to them by leaden pipes from the river. On a marble stone in front is this inscription, "For poor and impotent woollen manufacturers, by the charity of *Lawrence Atwell*, erected 1772."

1773. Bedford Circus built.

The ancient residence in this city of the Earls and Dukes of *Bedford*, commonly called *Bedford-house*, formerly a Priory of *Benedictine Monks*, and granted at the Reformation to *John*

* This church was demolished in the siege of this city, by the Parliament army, during the grand Rebellion; and on removing the foundation at this time the remains of many human bodies, and fragments of inscribed tomb-stones, were dug up.

† The Old Bridge, which consisted of thirteen pointed and irregular arches, (not two of which were alike) was similar to most ancient bridges, very narrow, and had recesses on the piers; houses were at each end, (of which those at the east are remaining) and an open space was in the centre, where was a door way and a flight of steps that led to a long vaulted room, commonly called the Pixey or Fairy House. There was a wattled weir below the bridge to prevent the fall of water from injuring the foundation, which was of square stone, laid on an innumerable quantity of oak piles driven thick into the ground. Some of these on being drawn up were very hard and black as jet.

ST: MARY'S CHAPEL.

FORMERLY IN THE CASTLE YARD. EXETER.

Lord Russel, which had been for many years let to different tenants, was now taken down, and the site and gardens let on a building lease to *Mr. Robert Stribling*, of *Exeter*, Builder, who erected thereon the present regular and elegant line of buildings called *Bedford Circus*, the first stone of which was laid May 27th, 1773.

Several antiquities, lead coffins, and human bones found

In digging for the foundation a great number of human bones were dug up, with the foundation of a church, broken mouldings, fragments of sepulchral monuments, and other ruins of a sacred edifice and its adornments; and in the garden were discovered, some feet deep, several lead coffins, containing human skeletons; also a thick leaden box or chest, containing the remains of three or four human sculls and other bones. This discovery occasioned various conjectures, as there was not length enough for receiving a body. All these were emptied of their contents, for the small value of the lead, and the bones thrown among the rubbish, to the disgrace of humanity: a lasting odium must ever shade the name of a mercenary unfeeling man!

Death of Mr. Andrew Brice, of Exeter, Printer.

On the 7th day of November, 1773, died the learned and facetious *Mr. Andrew Brice*, Printer, and native of this city, author of the laborious and now highly esteemed work, "*Brice's Topographical Dictionary*," and several others. The satirical vein of humour in his "*Mobiad, or Battle of the Voice*," (which strongly exposed and reformed many ridiculous customs of his fellow Citizens) will for ever entitle his memory to esteem and gratitude. His remains were interred in *St. Bartholomew's* burying ground, November 14th, attended to the grave by many lodges of his brother masons, and a great concourse of spectators.

A. D. 1774. New County Courts built in the Castle.

The old Courts in the Castle being very inconvenient, and greatly beneath the dignity of the large and opulent county of *Devon*, were taken down, and the present structure began; the first stone of which was laid by the *Right Honourable Lord Viscount Courtenay*, March 25th, 1774.

For holding the Assizes, County Courts, &c. during the time of building new ones, two temporary Courts were erected. They were afterwards taken down, as also the chapel and Castellian's house, when a new house and guard-house were built; the area of the Castle was levelled and gravelled, and the banks planted with young elms. In the course of these alterations many *Roman* and other coins were found; and human bones dug from under the foundation of the chapel and several other parts of the Castle. Those venerable remains of ancient fortifications, the *Donjon*, *Sallyport*, with its covered way and *Square Tower*, (in which was a lofty gateway walled

Roman coins, &c. found.

The Sally-port, &c. destroyed.

CHAP. IV. A. D. 1774.

up) were at this time taken down, greatly regretted by the antiquarians.

Slight shock of an earthquake felt in Exeter.

On the 25th day of October, 1774, about ten o'clock in the evening, a slight shock of an earthquake was felt in this city. Its direction seemed from south to north; the tremulation of the earth lasted about two seconds, and greatly alarmed several families, particularly that of *Colonel Newton*, in *James's-street*, where several doors were thrown open, and the house bells rang by the shock; it was also very much felt at the houses of *John Short, Esq.* and *Mr. Gibbs*, Surgeon, near *Palace-gate*.

1775. American war.

In this year the unhappy disputes between *Great Britain* and her *American* Colonies broke out into open hostilities; an event which involved this kingdom in a long, ruinous, and expensive war, that was most severely felt by the inhabitants of *Exeter*.

Mr. Baring's first election.

A long contested and disputed election for a representative for this city in parliament, between *John Baring* and *John Burridge Cholwich, Esquires*, was determined, on the 3d of November, 1776, by a large majority in favour of *Mr. Baring*, who was accordingly returned duly elected.

Dreadful fire on the Old Bridge.

About this time a dreadful fire happened at a house on the *Old Bridge*, used as a lodging-house for poor travellers. The fire breaking out in the lower part of the dwelling, and the doors being locked, the unfortunate lodgers had no way of escape; how many fell victims to the flames was not known for a certainty, but nine bodies, shockingly scorched and burnt, were found in the ruins and carried into *St. Edmund's* church.

1779.

The *French* nation assisting the *American* colonies in their revolt, occasioned an open rupture between the two nations; and the *Spaniards* and *Dutch* also joining in the confederacy they made great preparations for an invasion of this kingdom.

The combined fleets of France and Spain appear off Plymouth.

Accordingly the combined fleets of *France* and *Spain* entered the *British Channel* and appeared off *Plymouth*, whilst the *British fleet*, by a strong easterly wind, were driven many leagues to the westward of the *Scilly Isles*, and unable to work up the channel. The unusual appearance of an hostile fleet upon the British coast caused a great consternation; but the people soon recovering from their fright, and their ancient daring spirit reviving, every preparation was formed to give the enemy a warm reception, should they have the temerity to attempt a a descent; particularly at *Plymouth*, supposed to be their principal object, in order to destroy the Dock Yards and Naval

Arsenals. All the troops that could be collected were marched to that important fortress, and the *French*, *Spanish*, and *American* prisoners, upwards of 1,300 in number, were ordered to be removed to *Exeter*, to which city they were conducted under a guard of volunteers, collected together by *William Bastard*, *Esq.* of *Kitley*, who commanded them in their march. On this account the greatest exertions of the Citizens were requisite, no military force, except one company of the *Hereford Militia*, (left behind sick and unfit for duty, when the other members of the regiment marched for *Plymouth)* being in *Exeter* at the time; therefore, at a meeting called at the Guild-hall, it was resolved that such as would voluntarily come forth to do military duty, should appear in the afternoon on *Southernhay*, and there enroll themselves, ballot for their respective companies, and choose their officers; and so great was the spirit and loyalty of the Citizens at this alarming crisis, that upwards of eight hundred enrolled, were provided with arms, and formed into a regiment, under the command of *John Baring*, *Esq.* one of the representatives in parliament for *Exeter*. There being no fit place for the reception of such a number of prisoners, the county Justices generously gave up their Bridewell, in *St. Thomas's* parish, which was fitted up for the purpose.

1,300 French and other prisoners sent into Exeter.

On the arrival of the prisoners at *Alphington Cross*, they were met by two companies of the *Exeter Volunteers*, who were on that day appointed to do duty over them, and conducted to their respective places of confinement, the county *Bridewell*, and some houses on *Alphington* causeway. These volunteers having thus taken the charge of the prisoners, continued on duty during their stay (which was for some time) with such care that not one escaped; and for this, on the removal of the captives, his Majesty was pleased to signify his approbation by sending them his letter of thanks, which was read at the head of each company.

Citizens of Exeter form themselves into a regiment and do duty over the prisoners.

When the regiment was disbanded some gentlemen of the city, willing to continue their services, obtained his Majesty's licence for forming themselves into a company of foot; and being armed and cloathed, at their own expence, they met for exercising themselves in military discipline at stated times during the war.

A. D. 1780. The parliament being dissolved *Sir Charles Warwick Bampfylde*, *Bart.* and *John Baring*, *Esq.* were re-elected representatives for this city.

1783. The American war was now terminated, and a general peace ensued, to the great joy of all ranks of people.

1784. In order to improve the entrance into the city it was deemed

East-gate taken down.

CHAP. IV. expedient to take down *East-gate*, by which a beautiful vista was opened from *St. Sidwell's* into the *High-Street*, a very great and necessary improvement.*

A. D. 1784. Contested election. The King again dissolving the parliament there was a smart contest at the election for this city: the candidates were *Sir Charles Warwick Bampfylde*, *John Baring*, and *James Buller*, *Esquires;* the poll lasted near four days: the two first gentlemen were returned duly elected.

1789. His Majesty visits Exeter. His Majesty making a tour through the western counties intimated his design of visiting *Exeter*. Every necessary preparation was made, becoming the dignity of the city, for his reception; upwards of three hundred of the principal inhabitants were sworn as additional constables, and the streets, from the end of *Paris-street* to *Broad-gate*, railed in and gravelled over. The Chamber, at a great expence, decorated the Guild-hall with variegated lamps and festoons of artificial flowers; and a grand chair of state, with a footstool, covered with crimson velvet, edged with gold, was erected, in expectation of their Majesties honouring it with their presence. No expence was spared by the Chamber to receive and welcome their beloved Monarch and his family.

On the 13th day of August, 1789, about four o'clock in the afternoon, their Majesties, with three of the Princesses, and suite, arrived at the bottom of *Paris-street*, where they were received by a party of constables, who conducted them into the city, amidst an amazing number of spectators. At *St. John's Hospital* they were received by the Mayor, *Jonathan Burnett*, *Esq.* attended by the gentlemen of the Chamber, and the different corporations, in their scarlet and other gowns. On his Majesty's coach stopping, the Recorder, *Stephen Hawtrey*, *Esq.* addressed him, in the name of the Mayor and Chamber,

* This gate, which was much ruined by *Perkin Warbeck*, during the siege of *Exeter*, and soon after rebuilt in a very strong manner, consisted of a curtain flanked by two bulwarks. The exterior arch was very strong and lofty, over which rested a statue of King *Henry* VII. in a Roman toga, holding a globe and sceptre: the arms of the same King (viz. *France* and *England*, quarterly) appeared above it, the compartment decorated with roses and portcullises, to signify his descent from the house of *Beaufort*, whose cognizance it was; and the latter still is borne as a crest by the Dukes of *Beaufort*. This statue and the arms are preserved; they are placed in front of a house erected on the site, and built with part of the materials of the old gate. Near the bottom of the flanking towers were port holes for the great port cannons, and look-outs on each story. In the centre of the gateway was a strong semicircular arch, apparently very ancient; (according to the opinion of the learned *Dr. Stuckley*, this arch was of Roman construction) the interior front was adorned with a clock and dial, which were afterwards placed in front of *St. John's Hospital*. The gate was occupied as a public-house, known by the sign of the *Salutation*.

EAST GATE FROM THE EXTERIOR.

in a loyal and eloquent speech, expressing sincere and zealous attachment to his Majesty's royal person and government, and their grateful thanks for his condescending to visit their city.

The Mayor then presented the sword of state, which his Majesty was pleased to return, saying it could not be entrusted into better hands. Their Majesties then proceeded (through multitudes of joyful spectators, assembled from all parts of the surrounding country) to the Deanry, prepared for their residence during their stay. In St. Peter's Church-yard a regiment of dragoons (quartered at the time in the city) were drawn up, and they saluted their Majesties as they passed by, and then mounted guard at the Deanry.

In the evening there were bonfires, fireworks, and illuminations, with many emblematic transparencies. The next day their Majesties attended Divine service at the Cathedral; but the concourse of people being very great, they were prevented at that time inspecting the curiosities of that ancient edifice. After the service they repaired to the Bishop's Palace, where the King held a levee, at which the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, &c. were presented. The customary honour of knighthood was offered to the Mayor, but he declined it. In the afternoon their Majesties, Princesses, &c. went in private to the Cathedral, where they minutely observed every thing worthy of notice, and seemed highly gratified in observing the beauty of the building, the organ, Bishop's throne, painted windows, and other ornaments of that sacred pile. A general illumination was displayed again in the evening, throughout the whole city and its environs. His Majesty did not honour the Chamber with a visit to the Guildhall, it being contrary to usual etiquette, and to prevent giving umbrage to the other cities and towns he had passed through. After a stay of two nights the Royal Family and suite proceeded on the road to *Lord Borringdon's* house, at *Saltram*, near *Plymouth*, where they resided near a fortnight; and on return slept one night at the Deanry, and the next morning continued their travel to *Weymouth*.

A. D. 1790. Contested Election between John Baring and James Buller, Esquires, and Sir C. W. Bampfylde.

A supposition arising that a dissolution of parliament would speedily take place, *James Buller, Esq.* of *Downes*, was invited by a great number of electors of this city to come forward as a candidate, to oppose the sitting members, which he accepted, and his declaration appeared as early as November, in the preceding year; the pernicious practice of *Quilling* *

* Quilling, (in some places justly termed Ranting) a term almost peculiar to *Exeter*, signifies treating the electors with victuals and drink; or more properly subverting the morals of the lower class, to the ruin of many of them.

CHAP. IV. then commenced, and was continued, with very few intervals, until the month of June following, attended with an enormous expence to the candidates, and more injury than benefit to the electors. At the close of the poll (which continued for four days) *John Baring* and *James Buller, Esquires*, were returned duly elected.

A. D. 1790. The friends of *Sir C. W. Bampfylde*, not satisfied with the return, petitioned parliament, complaining of an undue return; and a Committee of the House of Commons being appointed to try the merits of the said petition, it was decided in favor of *John Baring, Esq.* who was declared duly elected.

The bad state and inconveniency of the criminal prison,* for the county of *Devon*, being justly complained of, an act of parliament was passed for building a new one. A healthy spot of ground, on an elevated situation, near Danes' Castle, being purchased, it was began this year, and completed in about four years. The principal part consists of brick, made and burnt on the same spot, with moor-stone copings; the lodge in front, which is of moor-stone, is furnished with baths.

The chapel is very neat, and the Gaoler's house commodious, and every necessary accommodation for the health, as well as security, of the prisoners is provided. On the roof of the lodge, which is flat, and covered with lead, a temporary platform and gallows is erected for the execution of malefactors.†

Melancholy accident. At the commencement of this building, a malancholy accident happened to one of the labourers employed in sinking the

* The custody of the goal was granted by *William the Conqueror* to *William Porto*, one of his servants, together with the Manor of *Bicton*. *Henry* I. conferred the said Manor to one *John*, surnamed from his office *Janitor*, who, by the tenure of these lands, was to keep the common Prison within the county of *Devon*. *Galfrid de Balster* held the Manor by the same service, in the reign of *Edward* II. from which family, through *Sackville*, it descended to *Henry Coplestone, Esq.* whose grandson sold it to *Sir Thomas Dennis;* and by *Anne*, one of his daughters and co-heiresses, who was married to *Sir Henry Rolle*, the said Manor and office came into the family of the *Rolles;* and the same is now enjoyed by the *Honourable John Lord Rolle;* who, upon paying a certain sum, according to the act, was released from having any further connexion with the said goal; and the government thereof was conferred on the Justices of the county of *Devon*.

† Before the erection of the New Goal, the place of execution was about two miles from the city, called *Heavitree-Gallows*, (though being in Sowton parish) adjoining to which is a small inclosed spot of land for the interment of those unfortunates who suffered. It was environed by a stone wall, at the expence of *Mrs. Joan Tuckfield*, of this city, who left an estate to the Corporation of Taylors, of *Exeter*, in trust, for keeping the said wall in repair.

well; after getting to the depth of near thirty feet, the sides, not being properly secured, gave way, and he was crushed to death: some time elapsed before he could be dug out, when a shocking spectacle presented itself to the spectators.

A. D. 1792. New Barracks for Horse began to be built.

A plan having been adopted by the legislature for erecting Barracks in the different parts of this kingdom, two large fields were purchased for that purpose near the new Gaol, in the parish of *St. David;* and the building was soon after began, and in a few years completed. It is an elegant quadrangle, situated on an eminence, commanding an extensive and beautiful view of the surrounding country: at the upper end are apartments for the officers, and in the two wings are stabling for two hundred and two horses, over which are lodging-rooms for the privates. There is also a riding-school, hospital, farrier's shop, suttling-house, guard-house, powder magazine, granaries, and every other conveniency that could be adopted for the ease and comfort of the stationed troops.

1793.

About this period the emissaries of *France* (having entirely altered their system of government) endeavoured to excite commotions in this kingdom: the well-affected and loyal Citizens of *Exeter* entered into associations for supporting the constitution and government. In order to counteract their pernicious designs large bounties were given by the Chamber, and subscriptions opened at different places, (the Country-house in particular) for the purpose of enlisting men for his Majesty's service, in both army and navy.

1794. The first Company of Exeter Volunteers raised.

Not satisfied with assisting merely by their purses, many offered their services in person, and being accepted, a company of volunteers was immediately raised,* consisting of sixty gentlemen, under the command of *Captain Mackenzie*, an old established officer. They were supplied with arms from the King's Arsenals, but their complete military clothing was at their own expence.

Devon and Cornish Fencible Regiment raised in Exeter.

The victories gained by the *French* on the Continent, together with the apprehension of troubles from the discontented at home, called for strong exertions to provide for the interior security of the nation; commissions were therefore granted for raising a number of fencible regiments, both horse and foot. Two gentlemen of this city, viz: *Colonel Robert Hall* and *Colonel Thomas Stribling* received commissions for levying two regiments. The first of these, by vigorous and prudent exertions, soon completed his quota of men, and they were regimented

* The gentleman who suggested in the Guildhall the idea of raising a company of volunteers was *Mr. Robert Hemer*, Attorney-at-Law, of Exeter, for which service the Chamber conferred upon him the freedom of the city.

CHAP. IV.

under the name of the *Devon* and *Cornish Fencibles*. Just after they were embodied they were ordered to *Ireland*, where they continued during the remainder of the war; and by strict discipline and good behaviour they not only preserved the tranquillity of the western parts of that kingdom, but gained the esteem of the inhabitants in every station they were quartered at.

By the tenure of their engagements the several fencible regiments were to serve during the war, but in the British Islands only.

A. D. 1795.

Colonel Stribling, through the ill conduct (we use no harsher term) of those employed by him in recruiting, after expending a large sum of money, failed in his endeavours to complete a regiment by the time agreed on, and those enlisted by him were draughted into and incorporated with other corps.

Second company of Exeter Volunteers raised.

About this period a second company of Exeter Volunteers, under the command of *Alderman Benjamin Honeycomb Walker*, was completed and added to the first.

A troop of Volunteer Horse raised.

A troop of Volunteer Horse, consisting of gentlemen and yeomen of this city and neighbourhood, under the command of *Sir Stafford Henry Northcote, Bart.* was also completed; the troopers furnished their own horses, helmets, and uniforms, but were provided by government with arms. Soon after a second troop was raised, commanded by *James Lardiner, Esq.*

Riot owing to the dearth of Corn.

The price of provisions, especially wheat, advancing greatly, created much murmuring and dissatisfaction among the common people; who, judging the evil to have arisen from nefarious practices of the opulent millers (whom they suspected of engrossing great quantities of grain) collected in a mob and proceeded to *Belle Marsh Mills*, near *Chudleigh*, which they partly demolished, plundered what grain they could find, and furiously insulted and ill treated the proprietor, *Mr. Balle*. For this offence one *Mr. Campion*, a Blacksmith, of *Drewsteignton*, was apprehended as a ringleader, committed to gaol, and on trial, being convicted, was sentenced to be executed near the spot where the crime was committed.

Mr. Campion executed as a ringleader.

In order to strike terror, and prevent future commotions, the execution was conducted in a manner hitherto unknown in this city, being entirely military, and entrusted to the care of *Major Shadwell*, of the 25th regiment of light dragoons.

The unfortunate man (much pitied) was conducted from the new Goal to the place of execution in a mourning coach, guarded by the light dragoons, the troops of volunteer cavalry of *Sir Stafford Northcote* and *Sir John de la Pole*, the two

companies of *Exeter* and several other of the neighbouring volunteers; and, in order to prevent a rescue, a battalion of militia, with two field pieces, were ordered to march to the neighbourhood. The execution, which was solemn and peaceable, struck great awe in the minds of the spectators, while the unhappy victim to the laws was much lamented, as he ever bore a good character. He declared he was obliged to leave his work and join the rioters.

A. D. 1796. John Baring Esq. and Sir Charles W. Bampfylde elected members of parliament.

The parliament being dissolved, writs were issued for electing a new one; and, *James Buller, Esq.* declining to offer himself as a candidate, *John Baring, Esq.* and *Sir Charles Warwick Bampfylde, Bart.* were returned duly elected.

Disturbance occasioned by forcing into service the Londonderry Fencibles.

A great disturbance happened, occasioned by a new raised regiment of foot, which were levied at *Londonderry*, in *Ireland*, by the name of the *Londonderry Fencibles*, and from thence removed to this city. It being the intention of government to draught them into other regiments, the men refused compliance, and manifested symptoms of mutiny; they declared that according to their engagements they were to serve only in their own regiment, and under their own officers. Upon this the military forces then lying here were called in to enforce the orders of government; and the *Londonderry-men* being drawn up in *St. Peter's Church-yard*, and refusing to obey new officers, were attacked and dispersed by the 25th regiment of light dragoons, assisted by a large party of the first fencible cavalry. They fled in every direction, and were pursued by the horse, under command of *Major Shadwell*, who executed his orders with the most brutal severity, dreadfully wounding many of the poor fellows, and driving them to the Castle, where they were disarmed and forced into compliance. During the time this scene lasted the whole city was in a state of confusion, and exhibited a melancholy idea of a military government. The light dragoons behaved with the greatest insolence, not only insulting the peaceable Citizens, but riding over many who were incapable of getting out of their way.

1797. Third company of Exeter Volunteers formed.

A third company of volunteers, consisting of gentlemen of the first distinction in this city, (who provided themselves with arms, military accoutrements, and clothing) formed themselves into a corps, for the interior defence and securing the property of the Citizens, in case of any intestine troubles. They were commanded by *Major Hamilton*, an old and experienced officer, who had long resided in *Exeter;* and, meeting with the approbation of his Majesty, commissions were granted to the officers; and the gentlemen regularly attended their discipline during the continuance of the war.

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A. D. 1798.

The French threaten an Invasion.

The *French* nation, exulting in their great successes, set no bounds to their ambitious views; and, exasperated against *Great Britain*, who almost singly withstood her power, and prevented her favourite scheme of absolute dominion, breathed revenge, and menaced the *English* with the threats of a powerful invasion.

The British ministry made every preparation of defence: signal-houses were erected to give early intelligence of the enemy's approach; and the most vulnerable places on the coast were fortified and guarded. They also had recourse to the constitutional mode of our ancestors, the *Saxons*, viz: arming the effectual force of the country, and calling forth the whole mass of Citizens for defence. Circular letters were sent to all parts of the country: on receipt of those to this city a general meeting was held at the Guildhall, where the true spirit of the British nation appeared in the most conspicuous manner. The opulent not only subscribed large sums of money, but offered personal assistance; and the heroic flame caught hold of all ranks of men. Nearly every one capable of rendering any service in this city enrolled their names in the different classes proposed and adopted in which they judged they should be of most effectual use to their country.

General spirit of the Citizens in coming forward for the defence of their country.

Troop of Exeter Horse raised, Colonel Granger's regiment.

A troop, who furnished their own uniforms and horses, was formed under the command of *John Short, Esq.*;* likewise a regiment of foot, by the name of the *Exeter Loyal Association*, who served without pay or emolument from government; they found their uniforms, (at a great expence) but were supplied with arms from his Majesty's Arsenals. *Edmund Granger, Esq.* a respectable merchant of this city, commanded them, as Lieutenant-Colonel. Besides these there were two companies, who clothed themselves, under command of *Alderman Reuben Phillips* and *Captain Laurence Williams;* and three companies under *Captains Blackall, Collins*, and *Tremlett;* also a company of light infantry, who termed themselves the *Exeter Fusiliers*, under command of *Captain Trewman:*† they had an allowance from government towards their clothing.

Six other companies raised.

Exeter Regiment of Volunteers.

The last six companies were afterwards united to the first and second of *Exeter Volunteers*, the whole forming a regiment

* This gentlemen soon afterwards dying, (universally lamented for his benevolence, and the many amiable qualifications he possessed) was succeeded in command by *Philip Cornish, Esq.*

† *Captain Trewman* being promoted to a command in the Regulars, the command of the company devolved on *Samuel Luscombe, Esq.*

Near Gimpie Temple.

complete, of eight companies, under the command of *Lieutenant-Colonel John T. Wright*, Collector of his Majesty's Customs for the port of *Exeter*, and brother-in-law to *Sir Stafford H. Northcote, Bart.* an old and experienced officer. All these corps continued their services during the remainder of the war, and were of great utility in preserving the peace of the country, and intimidating our enemies from their projected invasion.

A. D. 1799. High price of provisions.

The advance in the price of provisions still increasing, (occasioned by a partial failure in the harvest, and the great demands for supplying our fleets and armies) created much discontent among the middling and lower class of people, particularly at the Corn Market, which was but scantily supplied. The Mayor, *Jonathan Worthy, Esq.* constantly attended the markets, exerted himself for their relief, and preserved the public peace, for which he justly merited their thanks.

The Conduit removed to South-gate-street.

The situation chosen, on the removal of the *Great Conduit* in the *High-street*, proving very incommodious to passengers, by reason of the great resort of people to draw water, a complaint was laid by the neighbouring inhabitants, and the Chamber once more caused it to be removed. It was placed at the bottom of *Cook-row, South-gate-street*, where formerly stood the *Old Shambles*, over which was the *Wool* and *Yarn Market*, just before taken down, in order to widen the street, which was then very narrow,* and, from the great and almost continual passing of waggons, carts, &c. extremely dangerous to passengers.

A great fire in St. Sidwell's.

On the 28th day of July a dreadful fire, which consumed thirteen houses, inhabited chiefly by poor weavers, happened near the *Black Boy Turnpike*, in the parish of *St. Sidwell*; occasioned by a brick kiln being erected too near a large stack of furze, which taking fire, communicated itself to the adjoining houses. By this accident a number of poor families were reduced to great distress.

1800. Great distress of the poor from the high price of provisions.

The great consumption of provisions, occasioned by the vast supplies for victualling our navy and army, now caused the war to be felt by all ranks of people; and though, by our insular situation, and the vigilance of our naval commanders, we were preserved from the ravages of a foreign enemy, every necessary article of life advanced to an enormous price, and appearances were very similar to an actual famine.

* The narrowness of the street at this place occasioned frequent accidents: a few years since a countrywoman was crushed to death; being unable to extricate herself from a waggon that pressed her against one of the houses.

CHAP. IV. Wheat was upwards of a *guinea*, and barley 14*s*. per bushel; beef, mutton, and pork, 10*d*. and butter 1*s*. 8*d*. per pound; potatoes (though of the very worst kind) 2*s*. per peck; whilst trade was almost stagnated. This occasioned great murmurings and clamours, especially among the middling and lower classes of society, who had hitherto borne their sufferings with an unexampled patience. They loudly exclaimed, without exaggeration, on the distresses of themselves and families, and flocked to the markets in such numbers that the Mayor, *Richard Jenkins, Esq*. was obliged to order out the constables to protect the country people, as the populace, driven almost to despair, crowded on them. With the greatest anxiety, the people endeavoured to purchase their commodities, even at the most enormous prices, the necessary supplies being very scanty. How these evils originated it is not in the author's power to say; but most certainly many cruel avaricious persons reaped great advantage from the melancholy distress; their hoarding and monopolizing increased the grievance, as they kept from the markets the usual supplies.

The poor begin to be riotous.

Assemble on Southernhay.

The poor, no longer able to provide proper sustenance for their families, assembled together in many different places, particularly on *Southernhay*, from whence they proceeded in divisions to the principal landowners and farmers of the surrounding country, desiring some, and compelling others, to sign a contract (which they produced) for selling their wheat and other necessaries at reduced prices.

The Magistrates interfere, and numbers of additional Constables are sworn.

Though the mob (much to their credit) proceeded not to acts of violence, yet danger was feared if such tumultuous meetings were suffered to continue, the greatest exertions therefore of the magistrates were required to put a stop to them. Most of the householders in the city were sworn as additional constables; and the mob being prevented from holding any more meetings, by the vigilance of the Mayor, quietness in some degree was restored.

The poor relieved by subscriptions, &c.

Salt herrings imported.

Bread sold at the parish churches.

The sufferings of the poor needing immediate relief, a meeting of the principal Citizens was held at the Guildhall, where a subscription was opened, and large sums were subscribed. It was greatly assisted by government bounties, who ordered quantities of salted herrings and other fish to be sent to the different ports, which were retailed at moderate prices; bounties were also given for the importation of wheat, rice, and other kinds of provisions, from foreign ports. Large quantities of an inferior kind of bread (a mixture of wheat and barley, with other grain) was ordered to be baked in this city, and sold, under the direction of the overseers, at the different parish churches, at

a much lower price than the bakers sold at; and, in order to lessen the consumption as much as possible, an act of parliament was passed to prevent Bakers and others from selling (under a severe penalty) any kind of bread within twenty-four hours after the same was baked: it was likewise recommended to all families to retrench as much as possible the quantities of bread made use of in their houses; in short, every prudent measure was adopted to alleviate the distress of the country, and prevent, if possible, the horrors of an expected famine, until it should please the Almighty disposer of all events to remove this dreadful scourge by an abundant harvest. Government also exerted itself to remedy this calamity; one expedient was by giving a bounty to such person or persons who should supply the markets with a certain quantity of fish; this measure was happily attended with success, greater quantities of that useful aliment was brought to the markets of this city than was ever before remembered, to the great relief of the Citizens; and one *Mr. Thomas Bale*, Fishmonger, received upwards of £160 as his share of the bounty.

Act of Parliament to prevent the sale of new bread.

Bounties granted for bringing fish to the markets.

The rumour of a French invasion was now more prevalent than ever, and the British government made every necessary preparation for their reception. Large bodies of troops were stationed on the sea coasts, and many corps of volunteers were embodied for actual service. A large train of artillery, among which was four long twenty-four-pounders, with the necessary ammunition and stores, was brought from *Plymouth* to this city: the cannon were for some time lodged in the Castle, and the ammunition in a place procured for that purpose at *Polsloe*. A camp of horse and foot was formed on the commons, near *Woodbury*, to which the park of artillery was moved, and stationed in the old camp, commonly termed *Woodbury Castle*, where they remained until the breaking up of the camp, and then was brought back to *Exeter Castle*.

Fresh rumours of an invasion.

Exeter Volunteers embodied.

Large train of Artillery brought to Exeter.

Camp formed near Woodbury.

A great nuisance which had long been complained of, viz: the filthiness of the streets of this city, was this year removed by the Chamber; who, by an act of Common Council, made a law forbidding, under very severe penalties, any person from throwing or laying ashes, human ordure, or any kind of filth or dung in the streets or kennels; and compelling every householder to sweep the pavement before their houses three times in every week. Proper scavengers were provided, who, with carts, attended daily to convey away any dirt. This regulation was strongly enforced by the present Mayor, *Thomas Floud, Esq.* who acted with the greatest impartiality, making no distinction between persons against whom complaints were lodged,

Bye law made by the Chamber, for keeping the streets clean.

A. D. 1801.

Which is strongly enforced by the Mayor.

CHAP. IV.

fining them indiscriminately; and by this means the streets, which before for their filthiness had become proverbial, were kept clean and sweet, to the great comfort and health of the Citizens, whereby a great reproach was removed from the city.

The waste water from the Conduit conveyed to the Butcher-row.

The waste water from the Conduit was, by means of pipes, conveyed into the *Butcher-row*, where its current was of great utility in cleaning the kennels of the blood and filth which before lodged in them, and was very noisome to passengers.

In return for this very necessary improvement, the inhabitants of the *Butcher-row* gratefully returned the Mayor thanks, in an advertisement, in the public papers.

Alteration in the standard of bread.

This gentleman, likewise, on his first coming into office, altered the method of setting the assize of bread, after the custom of the city of *London*. Before this the weight of the loaves altered according to the price of wheat in the market, but they are now always to be of one standard weight, and the variation is in their price, the standard of which is set in the Mayor's Court every Saturday, from the returns made by the Clerks of the Market of the prices of wheat the preceding market day. He also strictly enforced the laws against carters and others for leaving their carriages in the streets, riding on the shafts, &c. fining all offenders impartially, by which frequent accidents were prevented. The fines for these and other misdemeanors, for the first quarter of his Mayoralty, amounted to a sufficiency to purchase seven hundred half-quartern loaves, which he ordered to be given to the poor at Christmas.*

This Mayor likewise paid great attention to the justness of weights and measures, and rectified all abuses in them, particularly in one nefarious practice, that had for a long time prevailed unnoticed, viz: the shameful custom of paring round the edges of their wooden measures, (such as pecks, half-pecks, &c.) by which the quantity of proper measure was much lessened. To prevent such iniquitous practices for the future, he issued orders that no measures of that kind should be used, unless they were encircled round the brim with iron. He also regulated the measuring of that necessary article of life, coals; and two sworn Coal Meters were appointed to examine and measure all coals sent from the wharf.

Regulation in the measure of coals.

On the conclusion of this gentleman's Mayoralty, he was presented with an elegant piece of plate, of the value of fifty guineas, on which was engraven the following inscription:

* The said fines for the remaining part of his Mayoralty were given towards the support of the Devon and Exeter Hospital.

"*Exeter, 9th October*, 1802."

"At a meeting of the principal inhabitants of the city of *Exeter*, together with the nobility and gentry of its vicinity, this piece of plate was presented to *Thomas Floud, Esq.* the late Mayor, as a testimony of the sense they entertain of his public services, in the execution of his office."

A. D. 1801. Preliminary articles of peace signed.

On the 14th day of October, preliminary articles of peace were signed by the Ministers of the contending nations; and on the news reaching this city it spread universal joy, evinced by all ranks of people: the Cathedral and other bells were immediately rung, and the next day there were general illuminations and other demonstrations of gladness; the preparations for carrying on the war were stopt, and the park of artillery, &c. sent back to *Plymouth*.

1802. Definitive treaty of peace signed; great rejoicings in Exeter on the occasion.

The definitive treaty was signed at *Amiens*, on the 27th day of March, 1802. On this occasion another general illumination took place, but much superior to the first, in which many fine emblematical transparent paintings were exhibited, and fire-works and bonfires were to be seen in every street. In the evening the principal Citizens, by invitation of the Mayor, met at the Guildhall, where they enjoyed themselves in the greatest festivity; every one expressed the most lively joy at the happy return of peace, and being relieved from so long, bloody, and expensive a war, during which they had struggled with the greatest calamities, not only by an almost total stagnation of their trade, heavy and oppressive taxes, but by a deprivation of the comforts and common necessaries of life, from the exorbitant prices demanded for them.

Militia and Exeter Volunteers disbanded.

On the 19th and 20th of April, the *East Devon* regiment of *Militia* (after being in service for ten years and upwards) was disbanded in this city, and sent to their respective homes: and on Sunday, April 25th, his Majesty's letter of thanks, and orders for their dismissal, was read to *Colonel Wright's* regiment of *Exeter Volunteers*.

Colonel Granger's regiment disembodied.

On Saturday, May 1st, *Colonel Granger's* regiment of *Volunteers* was disembodied, and the arms delivered up; the *Colonel*, in return for their good behaviour, entertained the whole body, with a splendid dinner, at the Swan Tavern; the corps unanimously voted a gold snuff box, of fifteen guineas value, to present to him as a token of their esteem and gratitude for his kind and polite behaviour.*

* Similar presents were likewise presented to *Sir Stafford Northcote* and *Colonel Wright*, by their respective corps.

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Peace proclaimed.

On Wednesday, May 5th, his Majesty's proclamation for a general peace was delivered in *Exeter*, and joy appeared in the countenance of every spectator. The procession consisted of the different incorporated trades, in their livery gowns, preceded by their Beadles and banners; the band of music belonging to the 6th regiment of Dragoons, and a party of the men, unarmed, flanking the procession; a Deputy Herald at Arms, mounted on a stately horse, and clothed in an Herald's tabard, richly embroidered with his Majesty's armorial bearings; the children of St. John's Hospital; the corps of Constables belonging to the city and county, with their staves; the city Officers, Mayor, Aldermen, Common Councilmen, and Bailiffs, in their scarlet and other robes. After the Herald had read his Majesty's proclamation in the front of the *Guildhall*, the whole proceeded to *St. John's Hospital*, where, before the Chapel, it was again read; from thence they moved on to *St. John's Bow*, the corner of *Bear-Lane*, in *South-gate-street*, and to the west front of the *Cathedral*, at each of which places it was again read; the procession then returned by way of *St. Martin's-Lane* back to the *Guildhall*.

During the whole time the Cathedral and parochial bells rang, and the immense concourse of people gathered together on the occasion testified their sincere joy; loud huzzas resounded through the streets, and the most perfect propriety of behaviour was observed.

The weather having been remarkably dry for near two months, the Mayor, to prevent accidents by fires, very prudently (by hand-bills) requested the Citizens not to illuminate their houses on this occasion.

Thanksgiving day.

June 1st was observed with the greatest decorum, it being the day appointed, by his Majesty's proclamation, for a general thanksgiving. The morning was ushered in by the ringing of the Cathedral and parochial bells; at ten o'clock the Mayor, Aldermen, &c. preceded by the different incorporated trades, with their usual insignia, went in procession to the Cathedral; the 6th regiment of Dragoons, with their military band, marched to the same place from the barracks: part of *Sir Stafford Northcote's* corps and the *Exeter* troop of *Volunteer Horse* (who were not disbanded) also attended Divine service. After prayers, the inner choir not being capacious enough to contain the numerous congregation, an excellent sermon was preached in the outer choir, by the *Rev. Canon Massey*. The parish Churches and Dissenting Meeting-houses were crowded; every shop was closely shut, (excepting a few Quakers) and the whole forenoon had the appearance of the strictest Sabbath.

Mr. Harold, of *St. Sidwell*, Coach Maker, with his numerous body of journeymen and dependants, after attending Divine service in the parish church, walked in procession through the *Fore-street*, preceded by a small phaeton, decorated with blue ribands and flowers, in which sat a little boy. It was carried on men's shoulders; and after their parade they proceeded to their large working loft, which was elegantly decorated with green boughs, lamps, and emblematical inscriptions, where the whole, consisting of upwards of seventy persons, sat down to an elegant dinner of the true good old English roast beef and plum pudding, &c. and spent the remainder of the day in the greatest conviviality, testifying their loyalty by many constitutional songs and toasts.

Many other companies dined together on this occasion, and mirth and good humour prevailed amongst all ranks of society.

Display of Fireworks.

On the Friday following, being the birth-day of our Sovereign, a grand collection of fireworks was displayed on *Southernhay Green*, by *Mr. Paddon*, of this city, the expences of which were defrayed by a voluntary contribution of the Citizens.

Sir C. W. Bampfylde and James Buller, Esq elected Members of Parliament.

The Parliament being dissolved, writs were issued for electing a new one: *John Baring, Esq.* of *Mount Radford*, who had worthily represented this city in five succeeding parliaments, having previously declared (by reason of his advanced age) his resolution of declining that important trust, the candidates were *Sir Charles Warwick Bampfylde, Baronet, James Buller, Esq.* of *Downs*, and *Edmund Granger, Esq.* of this city: the poll, which commenced July 2nd, continued near four days, and at its final close the numbers were, for *James Buller, Esq.* 786, *Sir C. W. Bampfylde* 637, and *Edmund Granger, Esq.* 444, upon which the two former were returned duly elected.

A. D. 1803. War again with France.

The restless and insatiable ambition of the *Corsican* Usurper, *Buonaparte*, who, under the title of first Consul, assumed the government of the *French* nation, unavoidably plunged this country into a new war. This haughty tyrant, this modern *Attilla*, after grasping into his hands the sole government of the major part of *Italy*, the *Austrian Netherlands*, and great part of *Germany*, depriving the King of *Sardinia* of all his hereditary continental possessions, subjugating the timid governments of *Spain, Naples*, and the *States* of *Holland*, to his imperious will, and in time of profound peace, (contrary to the most solemn treaties) ravaging and overturning the ancient government of *Switzerland*, the Usurper, jealous of the

CHAP. IV. growing prosperity of the *British Empire*, the only *European* power that opposed his attempts to universal dominion, endeavoured by the most arbitrary measures to annihilate her commerce; and, by peremptory mandates, ordered his servile dependant States to shut their ports against the importation of all British commodities.

This, and other flagrant breaches of the late treaties, occasioned mild remonstrances on the part of the British government: these remonstrances being answered, *Buonaparte*, in the most haughty terms, accompanied with threats and demands too extravagant, both for the honour and interest of the British nation, to be complied with, and conciliatory measures being of no avail, orders were issued for making reprisals on the subjects of the *French Republic* and their allies, which was executed with such vigour that a great number of ships were captured and brought into the British ports.

An invasion threatened.

Buonaparte, exasperated to the greatest degree, breathed the most sanguinary revenge, threatening the entire subjugation of the *British Empire*, and totally to annihilate her government; for which purposes immense preparations for an invasion were made, great numbers of vessels were constructed in all the ports of *France*, *Holland*, and *Flanders*, and large armies, composed of deserters and banditti, the refuse of most *European* nations, were marched to the sea coasts.

Great preparations of defence made.

To counteract the tyrant's intentions, the *British* ministry exerted themselves in the most vigilant manner. The lately dismantled ships were again commissioned, manned, and sent to sea; a new Militia raised and embodied; and squadrons of ships dispatched to cruise off the *French* coasts, and watch their motions. The preparations of the enemy still increasing, the utmost efforts appeared necessary to give them a warm reception, should they escape the vigilance of the British navy, and have the temerity to put their proposed threats into execution: an additional Militia, equal in number to the former; and an army of reserve, of 40,000 effective men, were raised by ballot.

Camp on Woodbury hill.

The East Devon regiment of Militia marched to *Plymouth*; a camp was formed on the heights, near *Woodbury*, consisting of the two regiments of Somerset Militia, and a large park of Artillery, which had been previously sent from *Plymouth*; batteries of large cannons were constructed on the coasts; and beacons erected on the principal heights, to give a speedy intelligence of an approaching enemy.

The vaunting menaces of the *Corsican* Usurper, instead of damping, roused the ancient ardour and martial spirit of the

British nation: large bodies of Volunteers were formed throughout the whole empire; and in this city and its neighbourhood the three troops of horse lately commanded by *Sir Stafford Northcote* were considerably augmented; and a regiment of foot Volunteers, consisting of six hundred men, was soon completed and armed, under the command of *John Thomas Wright, Esq.* Colonel; *James N. Duntze, Esq.* Lieutenant-Colonel; *Hubert Cornish, Esq.* Major; *B. H. Walker, Samuel Luscomb, Matthew Wood, John Gullett, John Wilcocks, Francis Turner, Laurence Williams, John Vicary,* and *Francis South, Esquires,* Captains. To these were soon after added two companies of Artillery, commanded by *Thomas Floud, Esq.* Major; and *Samuel Kingdon* and *Jas. Williams, Esquires,* Captains; and a company of Artificers, under the command of *Thomas Russell, Esq.*

All these troops volunteered to serve in any part of the western district, which consists of the counties of *Devon, Somerset,* and *Cornwall. Lieutenant-General Simcoe,* an officer of distinguished merit, a native of this city, was appointed to the chief command, in which he was assisted by *Major-General Grosvenor.* In addition to these great preparations, a formidable train of battering cannon, consisting of six long twenty-four pounders, and upwards of fifty carronades, carrying the same weight of metal, with a large quantity of ammunition, military stores, intrenching tools, biscuits, &c. were brought and deposited in this city, to be ready in case of emergency. The six long twenty-four pounders, with part of the carronades, were mounted in the Castle yard; the remainder of the cannon, with the ammunition, &c. were lodged in a field, near St. Ann's Chapel, proper magazines, guard-house, &c. having been purposely erected for their reception; and the remainder of the stores were deposited in several places hired for the purpose: and for the better accommodation of the troops, large additional barracks were erected, in a field contiguous to the former barracks. In short, through the vigilance and great exertions of the Commander-in-chief, the county of *Devon* was put in a state of perfect security; and its inhabitants bade defiance to the Quixotic menaces of a haughty and implacable tyrant.

On the 14th day of November the *Exeter* regiment of *Volunteers* were embodied for actual service, and took their part of duty with the troops here quartered, in mounting guard at the Castle, Magazines, &c.; and six brass field pieces (six pounders) were brought to this city, for the use of the volunteer Artillery. And, that no human efforts should be neglected, several hundred of the principal Citizens were sworn as additional Constables, to assist the civil power, and prevent

CHAP. IV. the unprincipled from taking any advantage of the necessity of the times, and plundering their neighbours.

In the midst of those great exertions our religious and gracious Sovereign, well judging that all human endeavours were vain without the blessing of the Almighty disposer of all events, by whose power the greatest empires rise and fall, issued a proclamation for a general fast, humbly to implore the Divine protector to avert his just indignation, and to preserve the British empire from becoming a prey to a lawless usurper, who had plundered great part of *Europe*, and drenched her plains with the blood of its unfortunate inhabitants. This fast was kept with all due solemnity by persons of all ranks and persuasions in this city.

A. D. 1804. The chief Magistrate, on entering into his office, proposed to the Citizens the following necessary improvements in their police, &c. viz: that an additional number of public lamps to those already maintained by the lamp-rates should be erected and maintained at the expence of the several parishes; that the names of each street and lane should be painted at their several corners, and the houses numbered, after the manner of *London* and other improved cities; and that a regular nightly watch be established—every householder in their several wards to watch each in their turn. These regulations are as yet but partially attended to. Most of the parishes have made great additions to their lamps, to the great benefit and comfort of occasional passengers in long and dark nights; and some have numbered their houses and inscribed their streets; and it is to be hoped that this necessary accommodation to enquiring strangers will become general, and the Citizens experience its great utility. The nightly watch was attempted, but not meeting with general approbation was soon discontinued.

The latter end of this year was distinguished by the foundation of spacious Barracks, with stables, store-houses, and every other necessary accommodation for a large military dépôt of artillery and stores. These Barracks, situate about one mile south of the city, are erecting in a field heretofore called *Spicer's Park*, purchased by government for this purpose: great part of the building is nearly completed.

MAYORS and BAILIFFS to the 45th year of the reign of George III.

1761.
Samuel Dix, Ob.
Francis Brayne.
John Bussell.
Nath. E. Cosseratt.
Richard Coffin.
Joseph Couch.

1762.
James Crossing.
Humphrey Hill.
Nicholas Medland.
John Yard.
Henry Kitson.

1763.
Edward Walker.
William Collings.
Wm. Spicer Dix.
Thomas Elliott.
Richard Glanvill.

1764.
Jacob Rowe.
Philip Dacie.
John Battersby.
Richard Hayne.
John Heard.

1765.
John Bussell.
Thomas Dodge.
John Lake.
John Bennett.
David Gattey.

1766.
Humphrey Hill.
John Floud.
Thomas Scott.
John Glanvill.
Robert Sparke.

1767.
Wm. Collings, Ob.
James Crossing.
Thomas Coffin.
Samuel Moore.
Samuel Walkey.
David Gattey.

1768.
Philip Dacie.
Gregory Jackson.
John Rowe.
Thomas Legge.
David Sweetland.

1769.
Thomas Dodge.
Henry Kitson.
Robert Stribling.
Joseph Ley.
Laurence Williams.

1770.
John Floud.
Thomas Wilcocks.
Reuben Phillips.
William Hicks.
Joseph Bass.

1771.
Thomas Coffin.
John Dennis.
George Strong.
William Lane.
John Bickley.

1772.
Gregory Jackson.
John E. Pierce.
Jonas Dennis.
Daniel Floud.
Henry Edwards.

1773.
Henry Kitson.
Charles Edwards.
John Holman.
Jonathan Burnett.
Joseph Steer.

1774.
John Dennis.
John Coddrington.
William Rigg.
James Bath.
Daniel Campion.

1775.
John Eyles Pierce.
James Grant.
George Westlake.
Charles Upham.
John Foot.

1776.
Charles Edwards.
Charles Furlong.
John Bussell.
John Pearce.
William Gattey.

1777.
Thomas Dodge.
Samuel Moore.
Benj. H. Walker.
Richard Jenkins.
Richard Daw.

1778.
James Grant.
Nicholas Brooke.
John Dacie.
Thomas Jones.
Joseph Gibbons.

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1779.
Charles Furlong.
John Bussell.
John Robbins.
George Sloman.
William Hutchings.

1780.
Samuel Moore.
William Ilbert.
Edward Bartlett.
John Spry.
Joshua Sparke.

1781.
Nicholas Brooke.
Benj. H. Walker.
Richard Coffin.
Nathaniel Sanders.
David E. Phillips.

1782.
John Bussell.
George Westlake.
John Bartlett.
Thomas Browne.
Joseph Gattey.

1783.
William Ilbert.
Nath. E. Cosseratt.
J. Crossing, Jun.
Richard Thorn.
Charles Saunderson.

1784.
Benj. H. Walker.
Richard Jenkins.
John Pinhey.
Nicholas How.
Robert Pike.

1785.
George Westlake.
Jonathan Burnett.
John Stephens.
Edmund Stooke.
William Hicks.

1786.
Nath. E. Cosseratt.
William Bate.
Ed. Bartlett, Jun.
George Hayman.
James Portbury.

1787.
Richard Jenkins.
Edward Ragueneau.
Charles Collyns.
William Chave.
Moses Hern.

1788.
Jonathan Burnett.
Reuben Phillips.
George Bodley.
Joseph Rowe.
Robert Saunders.

1789.
William Bate.
John Pinhey.
Samuel White.
Henry Floud, Jun.
Samuel Speare.

1790.
Edward Ragueneau.
Rd. Chamberlain.
J. Burnett, Jun.
William G. Chave.
Richard Gould.

1791.
Reuben Phillips.
Richard Hart, Jun.
Joseph Norrington.
Edward Pym.
Richard Finch.

1792.
John Pinhey.
John Balle.
Richard Dewdney.
Moses A. Mitchell.
Thomas Saunders.

1793.
Rd. Chamberlain.
Charles Upham.
Robert Tothill.
Jonathan Worthy.
John Gibbons.

1794.
Richard Hart.
John Brake.
John D. Worthy.
John Salter.
Richard Horsewell.

1795.
John Balle.
Joseph Gattey.
Thomas Hele.
James Penny.
D. Phillips, Jun.

1796.
Charles Upham.
Jonathan Worthy.
Thomas Turner.
George Copp.
John Rickcord.

1797.
John Brake.
Benjamin Walkey.
Robert Maunder.
Samuel Gilbert.
George Walker.

1798.
Joseph Gattey.
Thomas Floud.

James Worthy.
John Gattey.
Charles Matthews.

1799.
Jonathan Worthy.
Charles Collyns.
George Maunder.
John Ford.
Samuel Kemp.

1800.
Richard Jenkins.
Samuel White.
Richard Strong.
Richard Edwards.
Thomas Wills.

1801.
Thomas Floud.
Joseph Greenway.
John Shiles.
Joseph Bass.
John Reed.

1802.
Charles Collyns.
J. T. Wright.
Richard Worthy.
Thomas Hooper.
William Matthews.

1803.
John Pinhey.
S. Trist, Jun.
John W. Bennett.
William Beal.
Thomas Halse.

1804.
Joseph Greenway.
W. B. Jackson.
S. Langston, Jun.
Robert Gollop.
Richard Ferris.

1805.
John T. Wright.
Charles Collyns.
H. H. Pinhey.
John Periam.
William Davey.

Having thus, according to the best of my abilities, completed the historic account of this ancient and truly loyal city, I hope my fellow Citizens will continue stedfast in maintaining its glorious motto of "*Semper Fidelis*" until time shall be no more; and may the Almighty be graciously pleased to restore the blessings of a lasting peace, when commerce and trade shall again return to comfort the industrious Citizen, and the drum and fife be succeeded by the more pleasing sounds of the shuttle and artificers' hammer, which God of his infinite mercy grant.

End of the Fourth Chapter.

CHAPTER V.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

Religion of the Ancient Britons.

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Religion of the Ancient Britons, Patriarchal

THE religion of the *Primitive Britons* was, for many ages, pure and uncontaminated, nearly resembling that of the ancient *Patriarchs;* (a convincing proof of an early settlement in this island, soon after their dispersion at Babel.*) They believed in one supreme Deity, to whom they offered sacrifices and paid divine honours. Their altars were erected in the midst of groves of oak,† and the trees they held in great veneration;‡ as they did likewise the misletoe that grew from them, and which they esteemed as a great favour from Heaven. This holy plant, when discovered, was cut with a knife of gold, on a particular day, (the moon having attained its second quarter) by the *Arch Druid,* clothed in a white robe, and was preserved as a precious relic.

Introduction of Polytheism by the Phœnicians

Sams' Antiquities, p. 105.

A dreadful kind of sacrifice.

This purity of religion continued until their intercourse with the *Phœnicians* and *Greeks,* who introduced their idolatrous worship, Polytheism, and the abominable offering of human sacrifices: one of these customs was to erect a stupendous image of a giant, composed of wattled rods, the inside of which they filled with the captives of both sexes, old and young, taken in war, and with such beasts as they were wont to offer in their sacrifices; this image they set fire to, and thus offered up the whole as victims pleasing to their infernal deities.

Their Priests (the *Druids)* possessed great authority, but

* We find that even so late as *Abraham's* time that some of the *Canaanites* were not infected with Idolatry: see *Genesis,* chap. xx. v. 3; where *Abimelech,* King of *Gerar,* and his servants, were worshippers of the true God.

† "*Abraham* built an altar and planted a grove in *Beersheba*:" see *Genesis,* chap. xxi. v. 33. Hence we see that groves have always been considered as the most proper places for retirement; and doubtless the silence and natural gloom which reign in those solitudes must dispose the mind to serious contemplation.

‡ The custom of wearing branches of oak, on particular occasions, still remains among us, derived from the superstition of our ancestors, much more ancient than the preservation of King *Charles* II.

were under the government of the *Arch Druid*,* who instructed them in their religious duties: these were never committed to writing, consequently the graduates who were initiated into the mysteries were obliged to retain them by the mere strength of memory. CHAP. V.

The Priests not only administered at the altar, but presided over the education of youth; enjoyed an immunity from war and taxes; possessed both civil and criminal jurisdiction; and decided all controversies between private persons, and even differing States. Great power of the Druids.

At length their power and ascendancy over the minds of the people became so great, that the *Romans*, after their conquest, totally abolished their institutes, extirpated the Priests, and issued penal statutes against the exercise of their religion.

After the extirpation of the *Druids* and their religion the conquering *Romans* introduced their own idolatrous system: innumerable temples and altars were erected in the *Roman Provinces*, to their different Deities, (of which many remains have been discovered in this kingdom;) and the *Roman* Theogony prevailed till its final dissolution, under the Emperor *Constantine*. The Idolatry of the Druids succeeded by that of the Romans.

At what time the Christian doctrine was first introduced into this island does not appear, but it is very probable that it was soon after *England's* being made a province of the *Roman* empire. The story of *Joseph's*, of *Arimathea*, preaching the gospel here, and the foundation of *Glastonbury Abbey*, is not sufficiently authenticated. *Gildas*, a native of this country, and a faithful historian, assures us that the gospel was preached in *England* before the insurrection of *Boadicea* against the *Romans*, in the time of the Emperor *Nero*, A. D. 64. *St. Chrysostom* speaks of the event likewise, as also does *St. Jerome*. From different passages in the writings of these eminent authors we have sufficient proof of the early plantation of the gospel in this island. It is evident the doctrine of *Christ* was spread, and churches erected throughout the whole province of *South Britain;* and if the accounts mentioned by *Bede* may be depended upon, of *Lucius*,† a British King, The preaching of the gospel in this country. A. D. 64. Gildas. St. Chrysostom. St. Jerome. 169.

* Some eminent authors have supposed, from the Druidical remains at *Drewsteignton*, it was the residence of the *Arch Druid* of the *Danmonii*, and from that it received its name, which implies the Druids' town on the river Teign.

† *Bede* says that this King was converted to Christianity, by Priests sent from *Eleutherius*, Bishop of *Rome*, A. D. 169; and that after he had purged the Heathen Temples, and destroyed the images of their false Gods, he erected three Archbishoprics, one at *London*, one at *York*, and one at *Caerleon* upon *Uske*. Bede.

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erecting three Archbishops' Sees in his dominions, Christianity must have been the prevailing religion.

A. D. 290. Dreadful persecution of the Christians.

The Christian religion was nearly annihilated in this island in the reign of the Emperor *Dioclesian*, who raised the severest persecution on the followers of our Lord that they had yet felt.

The British Churches were every where demolished, their bibles burnt, and the penalty of death laid on such as concealed any: their Pastors suffered under the most cruel torments, and every means was practised to root out the very name of their religion.

History records the name of *St. Alban*, the Protomartyr of this island, *St. Amphibalus*, his tutor at *Verulam*, (now *St. Albans)* in *Hertfordshire*, and *Julius* and *Aaron*, two Citizens of *Caer-Usk*,* in *Monmouthshire*, as the principal Martyrs who suffered in *Britain;* and so many were put to death at *Litchfield* † that it resembled another *Golgotha;* some authors make them amount to upwards of ten thousand.

306. Christian religion firmly established in England.

This was the last and most violent persecution the Primitive Christians suffered under the *Roman* Emperors, for *Constantinus Chlorus*, who succeeded *Dioclesian*, greatly favoured them, and permitted them to rebuild their Churches and enjoy the public exercise of their religion. His son and successor, *Constantine*, (whose mother, the Empress *Helena*, was a *Briton* by birth, and a Christian) publicly embraced the doctrine of *Christ;* and from this time it flourished in *Britain*, and became the national religion, until the conquest of *England* by the heathen *Saxons*.

Though there remains not the slightest record of British Churches in this city, yet that it enjoyed the blessings of the gospel of *Christ* with the rest of *Britain* cannot be doubted.

477. British Churches destroyed by the Saxons.

By the establishment of the *Saxons* in *England* the professors of the Christian religion (the remains of the *Britons)* were driven to the remote corners of the island; the Churches were destroyed, and the Pastors cruelly butchered; in short, the most horrid devastations extended to every place where the invaders possessed power.

Gross idolatry was introduced by them; they offered human sacrifices to their gods; even their princes and most eminent men were chosen by lot for that purpose.

Cambden. * *Mr. Cambden*, p. 75, says they were Citizens of *Caer-esk, (Exeter)* but this must be a mistake.

† From this event some authors conceive its name to have been *Leachfield*, that is a field of dead carcases; and for this cause the city bears for its arms an escutcheon charged with many martyrs.

Sometimes the handsomest of their captives were selected and put to excruciating tortures; their bodies were opened while alive, under pretence that by viewing them they could portend future events, as success in battle, &c.

Saxon Deities.

Their principal Deities were the *Sun*, *Moon*, *Tuisco*, *Woden*, *Thor*, *Friga*, and *Seater*, to whom they dedicated the days of the week.

A. D. 597. Saxons in England receive the Christian faith.

The *Saxons* were sunk in the extreme of idolatry, until their conversion by *Augustine*, the Monk, in the reign of *Ethelbert*, King of *Kent*, A. D. 597, who embraced Christianity from the persuasion of his Queen.

611. West Saxons converted to Christianity

The *West Saxons* did not receive the Christian faith until the reign of *Kynegills*, A. D. 611, who, by the preaching of *Berinus*, an *Italian*, sent from *Rome*, was convinced of the errors of idolatry, and was baptized, with many of his nobility. By frequent irruptions and cruelties of the Pagan *Danes* desolation was again brought upon the country, and the Christian religion once more nearly exterminated.

Even Christianity softened not the manners of the *English Saxons;* nothing could exceed their ignorance at this period; for, as they received the doctrine through the corrupted channels of *Rome*, credulity and superstition were implanted with it. Bounty to the Church atoned for every vice, and the blackest crimes were pardoned by penance, while servility to the Monks was observed to a gross degree, and large benefactions were continually made by the nobility to the Court of *Rome*.

Great superstition of the times.

Wilfrid, Bishop of *Lindisfarne*, sole Prelate of *Northumberland*, preached to his ignorant auditors "that *St. Peter*, to whose custody the keys of Heaven were entrusted, would refuse admittance to every one who should be wanting in respect to his successor." This suited their vulgar conceptions, and increased the influence of the Papal See.

Saxon Chronicle.

905.

The great extent of the Diocesses in that early age made a regular visitation of the Bishops almost impracticable. King *Edward* the Elder, about 905, visiting the western parts of his dominions, found the Churches deserted and in ruins, no Pastors, the people wrapt in the deepest ignorance, and nothing but the name of Christian left among them: to remedy this evil he, by the advice of *Plegmundus*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, erected two more Sees,* one at *St. Petrocs*, at *Bodmin*, for *Cornwall*, the other at *Tawton*, for *Devon*, appointing *Werstanus* the first Bishop.

* Prior to this the See of the *West Saxons* had been removed to *Winchester*, from *Dorchester* in *Oxfordshire*, and the Diocess divided into two, viz: *Winchester*, and *Sherborne* in *Dorsetshire*.

CHAP. V.

Bishops of Devon.

Werstanus. 1st. *Werstanus*, after his consecration, fixed his See at *Tawton*, near *Barnstaple*, but did not enjoy his new dignity long; he died in the following year, was buried in his own church, and succeeded by

A. D. 906. Putta. 2nd. *Putta*, who had also fixed his See at *Tawton;* but, about the year 912, taking a journey to *Crediton*, to visit the King, or, according to others, *Uffa*, Earl of *Devon*, was slain, supposed by the said Earl's followers.

912. Eadulphus. The See removed to Crediton. 3rd. *Eadulphus*,* on the death of *Putta*, was consecrated Bishop of *Devon*, at *Crediton*, to which place he removed his See, and built a magnificent church. He continued Bishop twenty-two years, and dying was buried in his own church.

934. Ethelgarus. 4th. *Ethelgarus* succeeded. In his time King *Athelstan* founded a *Benedictine Monastery* in the city of *Exeter*, which he dedicated to the *Virgin Mary*. He held his See ten years, and then dying was buried in his own church.

944. Algarus. 5th. *Algarus*. He was installed at *Crediton*, and held the See about ten years. He was buried in his own church, and succeeded by

954. Alfwoldus. 6th. *Alfwoldus*, who was consecrated by *Dunstan*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*. In his time, *Orgar*, Earl of *Devon*, built the stately Abbey of *Tavistock;* and King *Edgar* restored the *Benedictine Abbey*, founded by *Athelstan*, in *Exeter*, recalled the Monks who had been dispersed, and made *Sidemannus* Abbot thereof. *Alfwoldus* governed his Diocess about sixteen years. He also was interred in his own church.

970. Alwolfus. 7th. *Alwolfus*, according to *Dicetas*, was consecrated Bishop of *Crediton*, who held his See about nine years, and then dying was buried in his own church.

Sidemannus 8th. *Sidemannus*, Abbot of *Exeter*, was elected in the room of the last Bishop. During his government the *Danes* made dreadful havoc in the counties of *Devon* and *Cornwall;* they burnt and destroyed, by different means, the country, and spared neither sex nor age: among other outrages they burnt the Cathedral church at *Bodmin*, on which account the See was removed to *St. Germans*. *Sidemannus*, after enjoying his Episcopal dignity for twelve years, died, and was interred in his own Cathedral.

Cathedral at Bodmin burnt by the Danes.

Alphredus. 9th. *Alphredus*, (named by *Dicetas*, *Alfricus*) Abbot of *Malmsbury*, was installed at *Crediton*. He was esteemed a

* *Mr. Hoker* makes this Bishop brother to *Alpsius*, Duke of *Devon* and *Cornwall*, but this must be an error, for *Uffa*, at this time, was Earl of *Devon;* the title of Duke was not known then; besides, the name *Alpsius* is not *Saxon*.

learned man, and wrote two books: the one entitled, *De Rebus Cœnobii Sui*, the other *De Rerum Naturis*. In this Bishop's time King *Ethelred* endowed the Bishopric of *St. Germans* with lands, great liberties, and immunities. The *Danes* again ravaged *Devon* and *Cornwall*, spoiled and burnt the Abbey of *Tavistock*, and besieged *Exeter*, but were defeated at *Pinhoe* with great slaughter. *Alphredus* died A. D. 999, and was interred in *Crediton* church.

Danes defeated at Pinhoe.

10th. *Alwolfus* (according to *Dicetas*) was the next Bishop. In his time *Sweyn*, King of *Denmark*, took and destroyed the city of *Exeter*. In this general destruction the remains of British antiquity, Churches, and Monasteries, fell a prey to the flames, and the whole city was left one heap of ruins. *Alwolfus* was Bishop of *Crediton*, but he enjoyed but little comfort, being continually in terror of the *Danes*, to whom he was obliged to pay submission. He died A. D. 1014, and was interred in his own church.

A. D. 999. Alwolfus. Exeter destroyed by the Danes.

11th. *Alnoldus*, according to *Matthew* of *Westminster*, succeeded, and was installed at *Crediton*. In the time of this Bishop's government King *Canute*, to expiate the crimes of his father, *Sweyn*, repaired the *Benedictine Abbey* of *Exeter*, granted the Monks great privileges, and gave to the Abbot, *Athelwold*, many holy relics, with grants of lands, (particularly the Manor of *Stoke Canon*) besides large immunities. *Alnoldus*, after sitting in the Episcopal chair fifteen years, died, and was interred in his own church.

1014. Alnoldus.

12th. *Levigus*, (or *Levingus*) Abbot of *Tavistock*, and nephew to *Brithwald*, Bishop of *Cornwall*, was the next successor. He was high in the favor of *Canute*, whom he attended in his pilgrimage to *Rome*. On the death of his uncle, the Bishop of *St. Germans*, he obtained that See, and united it to that of *Crediton*, which has ever since continued one Bishopric. After fifteen years he was removed to the See of *Worcester*, where he died and was buried. Some affirm that falling under the displeasure of the King, *Hardicanute*, he was deposed, and returned back to *Tavistock*, and there died.

1029. Levigus. The Sees of Cornwall & Devon united.

13th. *Leofricus*. He was a native of *Lorrain*, and on account of his noble descent, wisdom, and learning, greatly in favour with King *Edward*, the *Confessor*,* who made him one of his Privy Council, Lord Chancellor of *England*, and afterwards promoted him to the vacant See of *Crediton*, where he was installed; he then removed his residence to *Exeter*, a place of more note and security in such troublesome times;

1044. Leofricus. The Bishop's See removed from Crediton to Exeter.

* King *Edward*, by his partiality to foreigners, (for he promoted them to places of the greatest trust) was greatly instrumental to the *Norman* Conquest.

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and at his request the King, with his Queen, *Editha*, came to this city, and removed the Monks from the *Benedictine Abbey* to that of *Westminster*, which he had lately built. He also translated the See from *Crediton* to *Exeter*, and put the Bishop in possession thereof; the King taking him by the right hand, and the Queen by the left, conducted him to the high altar, and there placed him in a seat appointed for that purpose. *Leofricus*, thus installed, suppressed several religious houses within the vicinity of his church, and appropriated their revenues to its service; and by his great interest with the King obtained of him large possessions, privileges, and revenues. In his time *William* the *Conqueror* possessed himself of this kingdom, besieged and took this city.

This Bishop filled the Episcopal Chair with dignity and honour for twenty-three years, died in peace, and was interred in the cemetery of his church, which place, by the enlargement of the sacred pile since, is under the south tower. A new monument was erected to his memory, about the year 1568, at the expence of the Dean and Chapter, through the influence of *Mr. John Hoker*, (author of the ancient *History of Exeter*) who composed an elegant Latin epitaph which is now entirely obliterated; the only one remaining (which has lately been repaired) is, "*Leofricus fyrst Bishoppe of Excester lyeth here.*"

A. D. 1074. Osbertus.

14th. *Osbertus*, by birth a *Norman*, was, in 1074, installed into this Bishopric, which he held for near thirty years, the latter part of which he was almost blind from age. He died A. D. 1104, and was buried in the cemetery of his church, near his predecessor.*

1104. William Warlwest. 1107.

15th. *William Warlwest*, a *Norman*, Chaplain to the Conqueror, and his sons and successors, *William* and *Henry*, was, by the latter, preferred to this Bishopric, and consecrated by *Anslem*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, in 1107. He first began to enlarge his Cathedral, which at that time occupied the site of that part only now termed the *Lady's Chapel*. He also founded a Monastery for Canons Regular at *Plympton*. In his latter days he lost his sight, yet so great was his reputation for wisdom that it did not prevent his being sent Ambassador to *Pope Paschall*, where he executed his commission with so much prudence that he effected a reconciliation between the said Pope and his Master, who before were at high variance. On his return he was received with marks of the greatest esteem, notwithstanding which, judging himself unfit (from his

* Adjoining the wall, under the south tower, is a very ancient altar tomb, without any inscription remaining, which is supposed to cover the remains of this Bishop.

blindness) to perform the duties of his sacred function, he resigned his Bishopric, and retired to *Plympton*, where, becoming a Canon in the house he had caused to be built, he died, and was buried there. He filled the Episcopal chair about twenty years.

A. D. 1128. Robert Chichester.

16th. *Robert Chichester*, Dean of *Salisbury*, was consecrated by *Anselm*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, in 1128. He was a descendant of a very respectable family in the county of *Devon*, and esteemed for his great zeal in religion, often (according to the ignorance of those times) performing Pilgrimages to *Rome*, and other places, and bringing home relics. He continued the additional buildings to his Cathedral began by his predecessor, on which he expended great sums. After having enjoyed his dignity about twenty-two years he died, and was interred in his own Cathedral, on the south side of the high altar.

1150. Robert Warlewest.

17th. *Robert Warlewest*, nephew to the late Bishop *William*, Dean of *Salisbury*, was consecrated by *Theobald*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, in 1150. He continued the building of his Cathedral, and after filling the See about nine years, died, and was buried at *Plympton*, near his uncle.

1159. Bartholomew Iscanus.

18th. *Bartholomew Iscanus* (so named from the place of his birth, he being born in *Exeter*) succeeded. He was the son of a poor citizen; but being noticed in his early age for his apt and ready wit, and great inclination to learning, his parents, with the assistance of friends, put him to school, where he made such proficiency that he attracted the notice of his superiors, and was by them advanced in the Church. After his elevation to the Episcopal throne he wrote several books, on *Predestination*, *Free Will*, *Penance*, and other superstitious errors of the times. He was a great opposer of that arch rebel and pretended Saint, *Thomas Becket*, particularly in the Parliament held at *Northampton*, where in his speech he convinced his auditors of the justice of the King's cause and the fallacies of *Becket's* pretensions, which occasioned the Archbishop's banishment. After *Becket's* murder this Bishop was sent Ambassador to Pope *Alexander* III. to endeavour to effect a reconciliation between him and King *Henry*, which he performed, and returned home with great honour. In this Bishop's time

Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury, a native of Exeter.

Baldwin, surnamed of *Exeter*, being a native of this city, presided in the Archiepiscopal chair of *Canterbury*. He was born of poor parents, but from his childhood evinced a great desire for learning, by which he attracted the notice of the Prior and Monks of *St. Nicholas*,* in this city, who instructed

* The only instructors at that time were Monks and Friars; and the little learning then known was entirely confined to the Cloisters.

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him in school Divinity, and other branches of learning taught in those times; under these instructors he obtained great literary knowledge, and through merit alone was advanced to the highest dignities in the *English* church.

Between those fellow Citizens, *Bartholomew* and *Baldwin*, an early intimacy commenced, which lasted during their lives. This Bishop presided over his Diocess about fourteen years, but where he died or was buried is not ascertained.*

A. D. 1184. John the Chanter.

19th. *John*, surnamed the *Chanter*, from his office, having been *Precentor* of this Cathedral, was consecrated and installed Bishop of this Diocess in 1184. He continued the building of his Cathedral, wherein he was nothing inferior to his predecessors. He died in 1191, (after being Bishop of this See about six years) and was interred on the south side of his own church, opposite the door leading to the Bishop's Palace.

1191. Henry Marshall.

20th. *Henry Marshall*, Archdeacon of *Stafford*, brother to *Walter*, Earl Marshal of *England*, was consecrated by *Hubert*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, in 1191. He proceeded in the work began by his predecessors with much vigour, and completed the Choir of the Cathedral; after which he purchased the Manor of *Woodbury*, of one *Albermarle*, which he gave and impropriated to the Vicars Choral of his church. He died, after governing his Diocess with great reputation twelve years, and was interred on the north side of the choir of his Cathedral, under an altar tomb, erected in 1206, on which his effigy lies at full length, with a mitre on its head, and a crosier in its hand: the whole well executed in grey marble; but no inscription remains.

1206. Simon de Apulia.

21st. *Simon de Apulia*, by birth an *Italian*, was installed in 1206. He revived the ordinances of his primitive predecessor, *Leofricus*, that all his Canons should take their diet in common at one table; and for this purpose a steward was appointed to provide them necessary victuals. During this Bishop's time two learned men flourished, viz: *Joseph Iscanus* (so named from receiving his birth in this city) and *Alexander Nequam*, Prior of *St. Nicholas*. The former was deeply learned in the Greek and Latin languages, an excellent mathematician, and well acquainted with the liberal sciences; the latter was a profound philosopher, an eloquent orator, a pleasant poet, and well versed in Divinity.

Joseph Iscanus. Alexander Nequam.

Johannes Devonius.

About 1212, *John*, surnamed *Devonius*, a native of this

* *Mr. Izacke*, in his list of Bishops of *Exeter*, says he was buried in his own Church.

county, was much noticed for his learning and other qualifications: he was greatly in favour with King *John*, who made him his Chaplain and Confessor. He was an intimate acquaintance of his countryman, *Baldwin*, Archbishop of *Canterbury;* was made Abbot of *Ford*, in this county, by the Pope, and wrote several learned treatises. He was buried in his Abbey of *Ford*, much lamented by all who knew him.

Simon de Apulia held his See eighteen years, and was buried in his own church, on the north side of the choir, behind the pulpit, under a plain altar tomb; but no inscription or effigy is remaining to his memory.

A. D. 1224. William Brewer.

22nd. *William Brewer* was elected soon after the death of *Simon*, and was consecrated by *Stephen Langton*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*. He was descended from a noble family, being brother to *William Brewer*, Earl of *Devon*. He was much esteemed for his wisdom, and in great favour with King *Henry* III. who selected him as a guardian to conduct his sister, the Lady *Isabella*, into *Germany*, to her intended marriage with the Emperor *Frederic;* through the whole of which journey he was received with the greatest honours; and, after having executed his commission to the satisfaction of all parties, he returned home loaded with presents.

Constitutes a Dean and twenty-four Prebendaries in his Church.

Soon after his return he constituted a Dean and twenty-four Prebendaries within his Cathedral: to the Deanry he impropriated the Rectories of *Brampton* and *Colyton Rawleigh;* and for the support of the Prebendaries he purchased lands, the rent of which amounted at that time to £4 each annually: of these Prebendaries he constituted his Chapter.* He governed his Diocess with great reputation about nineteen years, and was interred in the middle of the choir of his Cathedral, under a plain marble stone.

1245. Richard Blondy.

23rd. *Richard Blondy* was consecrated by *Boniface*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, in 1245. He is reported to have been a man of meek temper and mild disposition. Being much advanced in years he was entirely governed by the principal officers of his household, who, taking advantage of his weakness, endeavoured to enrich themselves by granting conveyances of estates, and advowsons of church livings, without his knowledge or consent; but these nefarious practices being timely discovered, *Lodeswell*, his Chancellor, *Sutton*, his Registrar, *Fitzherbert*, his Official, and *Ermestow*, the Keeper of his Seal, the principal offenders, were excommunicated, and obliged

Four of the Bishop's principal officers do penance in the Cathedral.

* From this account it appears that the whole of the Prebendaries originally constituted the Chapter, though now confined to the Canons only.

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by the succeeding Bishop to do penance * for their crimes; and this they accordingly performed on Palm Sunday, the 19th day of March, 1257, in the Cathedral of *St. Peter*. *Bishop Blondy* held his See near twelve years, and was buried on the north side of his own church.

A. D. 1258. Walter Bronscombe.

24th. *Walter Bronscombe* was consecrated at *Canterbury*, by Archbishop *Boniface*, on Palm Sunday, 1258. He was a native of this city, and of poor parentage; but being of good disposition, and fond of reading, his parents, with the assistance of friends, placed him at school, where he made so great a proficiency that he was removed to *Oxford;* and there, by his diligent application to study, he made himself complete master of most branches of literature then taught in the public schools. From *Oxford* he was elected to the Episcopal chair of this Diocess; but not having taken on him Priest's orders his consecration was deferred (according to the rules of the church) until he had so qualified himself.

Very bountiful to the Church, &c.

During his Episcopal dignity he acquired great riches, and highly distinguished himself by his generosity and bounty. Among many other acts of benevolence he purchased the Bartons of *Rokesdon* and *Clist*, and gave to them the Hospital of *St. John*, in this city; founded a College for Canons Regular, at *Glasceney*, near *Penryn*, in *Cornwall;* and instituted in his own Church a Feast, named *St. Gabriel's*.

Remarkable instance of his getting possession of the living of Sowton.

Notwithstanding these marks of his benevolent disposition he is taxed with fraudently obtaining the patronage of *Clist Fomeson*, now called *Sowton*. The story is related by historians in the following manner:—

The Bishop having built a large house, for the residence of himself and his successors, at *Clist Sackville*, now *Bishop's Clist*, and being desirous of enlarging the estate prevailed on the Dean and Chapter to give up to him a contiguous estate, named *Cornishwood;* but not contented with this he wanted the patronage of the church of *Clist Fomeson* also, and made application for that purpose to the owner, *Mr. Fomeson*, who positively refused surrendering his paternal estate, which had long been the residence of his ancestors. The Bishop was much displeased at this, and a circumstance happened soon after which enabled him to obtain by compulsion what he could not get by persuasion. A Friar, the Bishop's Chaplain and Confessor, died in the Bishop's house at *Clist;* and, according to custom, ought to have been buried at *Farringdon*, in which parish the Bishop's house was situated; but that being at

* A very small punishment for so heinous an offence, which plainly proves how easily, in those days, Ecclesiastics got their necks clear of the halter.

some distance, the weather rainy, and the roads deep and dirty, his Lordship ordered the corpse to be carried to the church of *Clist Fomeson*, which was near and adjoining to his Manor, and separated only by the small river *Clist*. *Mr. Fomeson* receiving notice of this intended funeral, and that a leach-way was to be made through his lands without his consent, and being moreover well aware of the crafts of the clergy, called out his tenants together and went to the bridge, the only avenue from one estate to the other; there he met the Bishop's men bringing the corpse, and strictly forbade them from trespassing on his lands; but they persisting, and attempting to force a passage, a scuffle ensued, and in the conflict the body of the poor Friar fell into the water, and was thoroughly soused; a very heinous crime in those days. The Bishop was highly exasperated at such irreverent usage of a holy Friar, his own Chaplain and Confessor, and sued *Mr. Fomeson* at law; nor did he cease harassing him until he had brought him to a compliance of surrendering his patronage of the church and a piece of land, in order to save the remainder.

This Bishop held his Diocess about twenty-three years, and was buried on the south side of the Lady's Chapel, in his own Cathedral. On a sumptuous tomb is his effigy at full length, in pontifical robes, and other insignia of his sacerdotal office: the canopy is decorated with angels, holding labels, on which were legends, which, with the epitaph, is now mostly obliterated; the copy of the latter, as preserved by *Mr. Izacke*, in his Memorials, follows:—

Olim sincerus pater omni dignus amore,
Primus Walterus *magno jacet hic in honore,*
Edidit hic plura dignissima laude statuta,
Quæ tanquam jura servant nunc hic omnia tuta:
Atque hoc Collegium quod Glasney *plebs vocat omnis,*
Condidit egregium pro voce data sibi somnis,
Quot loca construxit? pietatis quot bona fecit?
Quam sanctam duxit vitam, vox dicere quæ scit?
Laudibus immensis jubilet gens Exoniensis,
Et chorus & turbæ, quod notus in hæc fuit urbe,
Plus si scire velis, Festum statuit Gabrielis.
Gaudeat in cœlis igitur pater iste fidelis.

A. D. 1281. Peter Quivill. The body of the Cathedral began.

25th. *Peter Quivill* was installed Bishop of this Diocess on the 10th of December, 1281. He was a great benefactor to his church, and first began the building of the nave or body of the church, from the choir, westward; of this he laid the foundation; he first instituted the office of Sub-Dean, and impropriated the Rectory of *Egloshall*, in *Cornwall*, for its support;

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he also added greatly to the revenues of Precentors,* by granting them the impropriations of *Paignton* and *Chudleigh*. He was a great benefactor to the Hospital of *St. John*, in this city, which he endowed with goods and lands.

A sudden accident occasions the Bishop's death.

In the year 1285 the murder of the Chanter, *Walter Lechlade*, happened, which occasioned the King to visit this city, as has been already mentioned in the civic part of this history; and the dispute broke out between Bishop *Quivill* and the *Franciscan Friars*, which occasioned him much trouble. His death was sudden, from drinking a syrup too hastily. This happened in the year 1292, in the eleventh of his episcopal dignity, and he was buried in the Chapel of the *Virgin Mary*, in his own church.

A. D. 1293. Thomas Bitton.

26th. *Thomas Bitton* was elected Bishop in the year following. The See of *Canterbury* being vacant at this time he was consecrated by *John Roman*, Archbishop of *York*. Bishop *Bitton* continued the building of the Cathedral, and was a great patron of learning and learned men, particularly those in his own Diocess; among those of most note were *Robert de Plympton*, a Canon Regular of the Abbey of *Plympton*, and Professor of Divinity; he wrote two books, the titles of which are not mentioned; *Walter*, of *Excester*, a *Franciscan Friar*, of *St. Carocus*, in *Cornwall*, who, at the request of one *Baldwin*, of *Excester*, wrote the noted history of *Guy*, Earl of *Warwick*; *William*, of *Excester*, D. D. Warden of the *Franciscan Friars*, in this city; and *Godfrey*, surnamed *de Cornwall*, Lecturer in Divinity, sometimes at *Paris*. *Bishop Bitton* died in 1306, and was interred in the choir of his own church, near the foot of the high altar.†

Learned men at this time.

1307. Walter Stapleton.

27th. *Walter Stapleton* was consecrated on the 28th of December, 1307, by *Robert Winchelsea*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*. He was descended from a noble family, and was so eminent for his learning, wisdom, and political knowledge, that he obtained the King's favour, who made him one of his Privy Council, and Lord High Treasurer of *England*. His installation

* *Mr. Hoker* says he founded the office of Chanter; but this must be a mistake, as Bishop *John*, surnamed the Chanter, filled that dignity in this Cathedral before the year 1184, more than a century prior to this period.

† On removing the old pavement of the choir, in the year 1763, the body of *Bishop Bitton* was discovered, enclosed in a lead coffin; the body was almost entire, and clothed in pontifical vestments; the face was covered with a sudarium, which had the appearance of tinder, through age; in the coffin was a small chalice and paten, of silver gilt; and among the dust was found a gold ring, in which was a large emerald. The body, after being inspected by the then Dean *Milles*, was again deposited in the same grave, and arched over; but the chalice, paten, and ring were preserved, by order of the Chapter, and enclosed in a box, with a glazed lid, for the inspection of the curious.

was attended with great solemnity. On entering the city he was met by the Mayor and Citizens, in their livery gowns, and a great number of gentlemen of the first distinction in the county of *Devon*. On alighting from his horse he was conducted on foot to the Cathedral: the streets were covered all the way with black cloth, which was given afterwards to the poor.

Hugh Courtenay, Esq. claims the office of chief Steward at the installation feast.

Previous to this ceremony a great dispute arose: *Hugh Courtenay, Esq.* son and heir to *Sir Hugh Courtenay, Knight*, claimed the honour of being chief Steward at the Feast, as holding the Manor of *Slapton* by that service; but a compromise took place, on the following conditions: that the said claimant, and his heirs, should, at the installation of every Bishop, meet him at the *East-gate* of the city of *Exeter*, and from thence, proceeding on his right hand to the Choir of the Cathedral, should prevent the people from crowding or pressing on him, and so incommoding him; and that he should at the said installation feast serve in the first course, at the Bishop's own table; and that in consideration of the said service, he should have for his fee four silver dishes, (of those which shall have been placed at the first course) two salts, one cup, (out of which the Bishop shall have drank at the said feast) one wine pot, one spoon, and two basons, all which vessels shall be of silver; and that in case the said claimant, or his heirs, should be sick, or in nonage, and not capable of performing the duties of the office, proper substitutes should be provided; and in case of non-compliance the fees should not be demanded.

Fees for executing the said office.

This agreement was made at *Newton Plympton*, and given under the seals of the said Bishop, Dean, and Chapter, the morrow after the Feast of *St. Thomas* the *Apostle*, A. D. 1308, witnessed by *William Martin, Philip Courtenay, Thomas Chichester, Stephen Haccomb, Roger Novant, Thomas Archdeacon, John Bickton*, and *John Troyagn, Knights; Robert Stockhay, John Buttlesgate, Robert Up-Ex*, and *Henry Buckerell, Esquires*. This Prelate greatly increasing in wealth employed part of it to the most beneficent purposes. He founded and endowed two houses in *Oxford*, one named *Stapleton's Inn*, (since *Exeter College*) the other *Hart Hall*; and among other charities he was a great benefactor to *St. John's Hospital*, in this city, to which he granted the impropriated Rectory of *Ernescombe*, for the relief of the poor children in the said Hospital.

The Bishop's great charity.

About the year 1322 he was sent Ambassador to *France*, to endeavour to reconcile the differences between the two courts, which he effected. In the unhappy disputes which soon after broke out between King *Edward* and his Queen, *Isabella*,

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he strenuously asserted the cause of his Sovereign, and was by him made Custos of the city of *London;* when refusing to deliver the keys of the Tower to the mob, (the Queen's party) they broke open his Palace, and plundered it of all his plate, jewels, and household goods. He then, to escape their fury, endeavoured to fly to the Cathedral of *St. Paul*, but being overtaken, they dismounted him, beat and insulted him in a cruel manner, dragged him into *Cheapside*, and there proclaimed him a traitor; he was then beheaded, with two of his domestics; after which their bodies were drawn from the place of execution and buried in the rubbish of a Tower, which the unfortunate Bishop was erecting near the Thames.

The Bishop and his brother murdered by the Londoners.

Soon after his brother, *Sir Richard Stapleton*, was seized and murdered in a similar manner: these cruel assassinations were committed on the 15th day of October, 1327. The Bishop's body and that of his brother were soon after taken up and removed to this city, and received interment, with great solemnity, on the north side of the high altar, in the Cathedral, and an elegant monument was erected. In this, which is beautifully decorated with gothic sculpture, the Bishop's effigy lies at full length, in his pontifical robes, and other insignia, painted and gilt; on the canopy over is painted the figure of our blessed Saviour, with his hands extended, and the wounds he received by the nails, at his crucifixion, are depicted on them and his feet. On a large circular entablature is a long Latin inscription, relating the particular passages of his life, and an account of his death. It was repaired some years ago, and repainted and gilt, at the expence of *Exeter College, Oxford.*

Sir Richard Stapleton's monument is in the wall of the north aisle, opposite to that of his brother. His effigy lies at full length, in complete armour, but it is now much mutilated, and the inscription defaced.

A. D. 1328. James Berkley.

28th. *James Berkley*, descended from the noble family of the *Lord Berkley*, in *Gloucestershire*, was consecrated Bishop of this Diocess soon after the murder of his predecessor; but enjoyed not the dignity long, for he died within four months after his consecration, and there is no certain account of the place of his interment.

John Grandison.

29th. *John Grandison*, of noble birth, being descended from the Dukes of *Burgundy*, and who was in *Italy* when Bishop *Berkley* died, was appointed by the King his successor; and this nomination being approved by the Pope, *John* XXII. he consecrated him Bishop of this Diocess on the 18th of October, 1328. He was much addicted from his childhood to literature,

in which he made so great a proficiency that at an early age he was appointed Professor of Divinity, on which he wrote two books, viz: *Pontificales Majores* and *Pontificales Minores:* these gained him the esteem of the Pope so much that he made him one of his Privy Council, and Apostolical Nuncio.

In this quality he sent him as his Ambassador to the principal Potentates of *Europe;* his last embassy was to *England*, his native country, where the great talents he displayed caused him to be noticed by King *Edward*, who procured his dismissal from the Pope's service, and gave him the Archdeaconry of *Nottingham*, with several other benefices, made him one of his Privy Council, and fixed him in this Bishopric, where he acquired great riches, and employed them in acts of charity and benevolence.

Bishop Grandison's expensive buildings.

He built and endowed the College of *St. Mary Ottery;* was a great benefactor to the Choral Vicars of his own Cathedral, and to the College of *Glasceny*, near *Penryn;* he built the two last arches and the west front of the Cathedral, vaulted the roof, and thus completed a building began 437 years before; the first foundation having been laid in the reign of King *Athelstan:** he also gifted large quantities of plate, ornaments, &c. on the Cathedral.

St. Peter's Cathedral finished.

At *Bishopsteignton* he erected a large house, which he well furnished, and left to his successors: he impropriated to it the Parsonage of *Radway*, for this purpose, (as he expresses in his last will) "that they should have a place to retire to should the King seize their temporalities." † He greatly retrenched the expences of living practised by his predecessors; and notwithstanding the great charge of building, and the sums he expended in charity, he was at his death possessed of great riches, which he left entirely to charitable uses, and in legacies to friends and relations.

William of Excester preaches against the clergy.

At this time *William* of *Excester*, a learned man, and Canon of the Cathedral, with several others, preached against the temporal possessions of the clergy, asserting that *Christ* and his Apostles were poor men; neither was any prince or layman subject to the Pope, except in matters of religion.

This doctrine greatly alarmed the Court of *Rome*, and *William*, with his abettors, were excommunicated. The Canon

* The reader will remember that the original building, founded by King *Athelstan*, was destroyed by *Sweyne* and his *Danes*.

† This prediction of the Bishop seemed almost prophetical, for not only this house and impropriation, but the greatest part of this Bishopric's temporalities were alienated, and became the inheritance of laymen.

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William of Excester recants.

Bishop Grandison occupied the Episcopal chair near forty-two years; he died on St. Swithen's day, 1369, and was interred in a small Chapel, in the front wall of his own Cathedral.*

A. D. 1370. Thomas Brentingham.

30th. *Thomas Brentingham*, a native of *Devon*, was elected Bishop of this Diocess and that of *Hereford* nearly at one time; but preferring the See of *Exeter*, he was consecrated accordingly, on the 10th of March, 1370, by *William*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*. He was highly respected for his great experience in the laws, both civil and ecclesiastical; and was one of the thirteen Peers appointed by Parliament, in the tenth year of *Richard* II. to take charge of the affairs of the nation. In the year 1377, he was made Lord Treasurer of *England*, and one of the King's Privy Council; he finished the buildings in the *Calendarhay*,† which were began by the preceding Bishop, for the habitations of the Vicars Choral; and after well governing his Diocess twenty-four years died on the 3rd of December, 1394. He was buried on the north side of the body of his own church, under a large marble stone, whereon was his effigy, inlaid with brass, which is now so defaced that nothing but the brass studs which fastened it are remaining.

1395. Edmund Stafford.

31st. *Edmund Stafford*, brother to *Ralph*, *Lord Stafford*, was consecrated at *Lambeth*, by *William Courtenay*, *Archbishop* of *Canterbury*. He was a learned man, and from his abilities was advanced to be one of the King's Privy Council, and Lord Privy Seal; he founded two Fellowships in *Stapledon Inn*, *Oxford;* he also reformed the statutes of the said house, and refounded it by the name of *Exeter College*. He governed his Diocess about twenty-three years, with much honour, and died on the 4th of September, 1419: he lies on the north side of the *Virgin Mary's* Chapel, in a beautiful tomb, on which is his effigy elegantly carved in alabaster. This monument was greatly injured in the troubles of King *Charles* I. and the inscription is totally obliterated.

1419. John Catherike.

32nd. *John Catherike*, a native of *Cheshire*, was translated from the See of *Litchfield* to this Diocess, and installed on

* According to *Mr. Izacke*, who was living at the time, his tomb was ransacked by the Parliament soldiers, in the grand Rebellion, and the lead coffin taken up in hopes of prey, his ashes scattered about, and his bones thrown no one knew where. This Chapel, which had been made a receptacle for filth, has since been cleansed, by order of the Dean and Chapter, the walls whitewashed, and windows glazed; but there is no inscription or memento to the memory of this beneficent Prelate.

† Now the College.

the 8th of November, 1419. He did not long enjoy his new dignity, as he died within two months after his installation, on his journey to *Rome*, at *Avignon*, in *France*, where he was buried.

33rd. *James Cary*, Bishop of *Chester*, a native of this country, being at *Rome* when the account of Bishop *Stafford's* death came to Pope *Martin* V. was by him made and consecrated Bishop of this Church; but he did not long hold the promotion; he died within six weeks after, and was there interred. James Cary.

34th. *Edmund Lacie*, *Bishop* of *Hereford*, was thence translated to this See; he was esteemed as a learned and religious man, but is accused of paying too much attention to flatterers, which often led him into errors. He was very strenuous in supporting the liberties of his Church, and this occasioned a long and troublesome lawsuit between him and the Citizens of *Exeter*, which was at last ended by arbitration. He claimed cognizance of all pleas within his court and liberties. A. D. 1420. Edward Lacie.

In the second year of his Bishopric great complaints were made in the parliament held at *Westminster*, against the dissolute lives of the Monks, and other religious fraternities; and the matter being brought before a general convocation of the Clergy, this Bishop (being chosen Prolocutor) made a learned oration on the subject, wherein he lamented that religious men should use such practices, contrary to the rules of their profession; and at the conclusion he presented several articles in writing praying for a reformation.

In this convocation it was finally agreed that every third benefice in the gift of any of the Prelates or Monasteries should thenceforth be bestowed (for seven years) on some scholar of either of the Universities of *Oxford* or *Cambridge*.

Bishop Lacie was a great benefactor to the College of Vicars Choral: he died on the 25th March, 1455, and was interred on the north side of the Choir of his own Cathedral.*

After his death many miracles (according to the ignorance and superstition of the times) were said to have been wrought at his tomb; and this occasioned a great resort of the common people to it, in pilgrimages, and to be healed of their different diseases.

1455. 35th. *George Nevil*, (the second son of *Richard Nevil, Earl of Salisbury*) a young man not twenty years of age, was promoted George Nevil.

* A plain altar tomb of variegated marble covers the remains of this Bishop; on the upper stone was inlaid his effigy, in brass or some other metal, as plainly appears by the indented marks: there is no sculpture or inscription to be seen; but on the top of the choir-screen, directly over the tomb, is a large shield, on which are the *Lacies'* arms—three shovellers' (or wild ducks') heads, erased.

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to this See, and consecrated the 25th day of November, 1455. At the age of twenty-five he was made one of the King's Privy Council, and Lord Chancellor of *England;* and soon after elected Chancellor of the University of *Oxford.* He finished the building of the Chapter-house, which was began by Bishop *Lacie.* After holding the Bishopric about ten years he was translated to the Archiepiscopal chair of *York,* A. D. 1465.

The Chapter-house finished.

A.D. 1466. John Booth. Bishop's throne erected.

36th. *John Booth,* a native of *Cheshire,* was elected and consecrated by *Thomas Bouchier,* Archbishop of *Canterbury,* the 22nd of February, 1466. He erected the stately throne for the Bishops, in the Choir; and, during his residence, governed his Diocess with honour; but on the unhappy disputes arising between the Earl of *Warwick* and King *Edward* IV. he removed for more security to his own house at *Horsleigh,* in *Hampshire,* where he died, in the twelfth year of his Prelacy, the 5th of April, 1478; and his remains were interred in the church of *St. Clement Danes,* without *Temple Bar, London.*

1749. Peter Courtenay.

37th. *Peter Courtenay,* descended from the ancient Earls of *Devon,* was the third son of *Sir Philip Courtenay,* of *Powderham Castle;* he was educated at *Exeter College, Oxford,* where he took the degree of Bachelor of Law; he then went to *Italy,* and had the degree of Doctor of Law conferred on him, by the University of *Padua;* and in the year 1477 he was admitted to the same degree in *Oxford,* with great solemnity, and gave a splendid entertainment on the occasion to the University.

Soon after his return he was made Archdeacon of *Exeter,* and in a short time after Dean of the same. While in this dignity a dispute arose between the Mayor and Corporation of *Exeter* and the incorporated Company of Tailors, which, after the expenditure of large sums of money in law, was left to be determined by King *Edward* IV. who sent his final decision to Doctor *Peter Courtenay,* to be by him delivered to the contending parties.

In 1479 he was promoted to the vacant Bishopric of this Diocess, and consecrated by *Thomas,* Archbishop of *Canterbury;* and no sooner had he taken possession of the Episcopal chair than he began to reform the abuses which had crept into his Diocess, to fill up the vacant benefices, and to retrench the pluralities of the Clergy: but, in the year 1483, when *Richard,* Duke of *Gloucester,* had murdered his nephews, and usurped the throne, the Bishop, with his brother, *Sir Edward,* and several others of the *Courtenay* family, entered into a conspiracy with the Duke of *Buckingham,* &c. to dethrone the usurper, and place the Earl of *Richmond* on the

Bishop Courtenay conspires with others against Richard III.

throne. These intentions being discovered before they were brought to a state of maturity, *Buckingham* was taken and beheaded; but the Bishop and his friends, by a timely flight into *Britany*, escaped the vengeance of *Richard*. Here he continued with the Earl of *Richmond*, and afterwards accompanied him in his successful expedition into this kingdom.

Escapes to France.

On *Richmond's* gaining possession of the crown, the Bishop was restored to his Diocess; and in the year 1486, in reward for his good services, King *Henry* VII. translated him to the valuable Bishopric of *Winchester*.

Is restored to his Diocess.

During his residence in the Diocess of *Exeter* he expended great sums in extending and beautifying his Cathedral; finished the building of the north tower, and placed in it the great bell, weighing 12,500lbs. called, from his name, *Peter's* bell. He erected a very curious clock, (for the invention of those days) which shews the changes of the moon, the day of the month, and the hour of the day.* He repaired and beautified his Episcopal Palace in this city, (as appears by an elegant chimneypiece still remaining;) he was a great benefactor to the poor; and died at *Winchester*, on the 20th of December, 1491; and, according to Bishop *Godwin*, was interred in that Cathedral; but *Mr. Cleveland* thinks he was buried in *Powderham* church; for he says that in the middle of the chancel of that church there is a broad stone, on which is the effigy of a Bishop, with his mitre, inlaid in brass, which could not be designed for Archbishop *Courtenay*, he not being of the *Powderham* family, nor for *Richard Courtenay*, Bishop of *Norwich*, as he was buried in *Westminster Abbey*.

Bishop Courtenay finishes the north tower, &c.

A. D. 1486. Richard Fox.

38th. *Richard Fox*, born in *Lincolnshire*, was, on the translation of Bishop *Courtenay*, elected to this See, and consecrated by *Thomas*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, in 1486. He was much esteemed for his learning and other qualifications; and being a student at *Paris*, during the exile of the Earl of *Richmond*, (afterwards *Henry* VII.) he became acquainted with him, assisted him with his advice, and accompanied him in his perilous expedition to *England*.

This enterprise succeeding he was much noticed by the King, who made him one of his Privy Council, and Lord Privy Seal; sent him also several times Ambassador to the Kings of *France* and *Scotland*, in which capacity he executed the trusts with such wisdom and fidelity that the King held him in high favour, and made him godfather to his second son, who was afterwards King *Henry* VIII.

* This clock was thoroughly repaired, and a minute part added, about the year 1760, by *Mr. William Howard*, an ingenious mechanic of this city, at the expence of the Dean and Chapter.

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He was a great encourager of learning; and in part founded *Corpus Christi College*, in *Oxford*. After presiding six years over this Diocess he was translated to *Bath*, and thence to the Bishopric of *Winchester*, where (having lost his sight through age) he died, and was buried in the Cathedral.

A.D. 1492. Oliver King.

39th. *Oliver King*, a native of *Cornwall*, being appointed to this See was consecrated by *John Morton*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, on the 20th of February, 1492. He was Chaplain to *Henry* VII., Dean of *Windsor*, and Registrar of the Order of the Garter. He held this See about five years, and died in 1497, and, according to *Mr. Izacke*, was buried at *Windsor*.

1499. Richard Redmain.

40th. *Richard Redmain*, descended from a most respectable family in *Hertfordshire*, was translated, on the death of Bishop *King*, from a Bishopric in *Wales* to this Diocess, and installed the 14th of December, 1499. He left no particular memorials behind him, saving an estimation for his wisdom and erudition; and after five years service in this See he was translated to that of *Ely*.

1504. John Arundel.

41st. *John Arundel*, a descendant from the ancient and respectable family of the *Arundels*, of *Llhan-herne*, in *Cornwall*, was translated from the See of *Litchfield* and *Coventry*, at his own request, and was installed Bishop of this Diocess on the 15th of March, 1504; but he did not long enjoy it, as having occasion to ride to *London* two years after his installation, he died there, and was buried in *St. Clement Danes* church, without *Temple Bar*, near his predecessor, Bishop *Booth*.

1506. Hugh Oldham.

42nd. *Hugh Oldham*, a native of *Lancashire*, Chaplain to the Countess of *Richmond* and *Derby*, (mother to *Henry* VII.) was, through her interest, promoted to this See. It is related of him that he was a man of more zeal than knowledge, and that though rough in his speech, he was friendly in his actions. He strongly defended the liberties and prerogatives of his church, which caused continual lawsuits between him and the overbearing Abbot of *Tavistock*.

A great benefactor to the Vicars Choral.

He was very liberal to the Vicars Choral of his Cathedral; he repaired their College, and brought them back to their ancient usage of keeping commons, for the maintenance of which he increased their revenues, and impropriated to their use the Rectory of *Cornwood*.

Though he was not a learned man himself he was a great promoter of public schools and seminaries for giving learning to others; he and Bishop *Fox*, of *Winchester*, were the joint founders of *Corpus Christi College*, in *Oxford*, and which they endowed with great revenues. He founded and endowed a school at *Manchester*, for the instruction of youth in good and useful literature.

At the time of his death, on the 25th of June, 1523, the suit between him and the Abbot of *Tavistock* not being terminated, he was under the sentence of excommunication, and his body was not suffered to be interred till an absolution was procured from *Rome;* this being obtained he was buried in a chapel purposely erected, at the upper end of the south aisle, in his own Cathedral.

This chapel has a vaulted stone roof, decorated in compartments, with his cipher, H O, and owls, being a part of his armorial bearings. At the east end is a mutilated altar, over which was a beautiful representation, cut in stone, in alto relievo, of our Saviour's birth, passion, and resurrection; but the whole was greatly injured by the fanatic hands of the parliamentary soldiers in the grand Rebellion. On the south side is the Bishop's tomb, under the arch of which is his effigy, lying at full length, clothed in the pontifical habit, a mitre on his head, and crosier in his hand, the whole painted and gilt, and on the architrave over the tomb is this inscription, in gold letters: *

"*Hic Jacet Hugo Oldham eps. q' obijt xxv. die Junij An. Dni. millo cccccxxiii.*"

43rd. *John Voisey*, (alias *Harman*) born at *Sutton Colefield*, in *Warwickshire*, was, on the death of Bishop *Oldham*, preferred, by King *Henry* VIII. to this Bishopric. He was greatly favoured in the early part of his life by the King, who employed him in several embassies, made him Lord President of *Wales*, and entrusted to his care the government and education of his daughter, *Mary*, who so strongly imbibed, while under his tuition, the superstitions of the Romish Church that they never after could be eradicated.

Bishop Voisey's prodigality almost ruins the See of Exeter.

This Bishop affected great pomp; he attended the court, and kept a large retinue of servants, all which was attended with such great expences that he almost alienated the revenues of his Bishopric; out of twenty-five Lordships and Manors, enjoyed and left by his predecessors, of great yearly income, he left but three, and those leased out; of fourteen houses well furnished, and the demesnes well stocked with cattle, deer, &c. he left to his successor only one, and that plundered of most of its furniture, and charged with several annuities.

* This monument was repaired and fresh painted, in the year 1763, by the Provost and Fellows of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, from gratitude to their founder and benefactor, as appears on a tablet placed over the monument. *Capellam hanc Gratitudinis Ergo Sumptibus suis Ornandum Curaverunt Pr. & Soc. C. C. C. Oxon*, 1763.

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In a word, by this Bishop's profuseness, the See of *Exeter* from being one of the most valuable is become one of the poorest, and the saying of Bishop *Grandison* verified, *that the Bishop hath now scarce a place to lay his head in.*

King Henry throws off all subjection to the Pope.

In the year 1535, the Pope having excommunicated King *Henry* VIII. he in return threw off all subjection to and dependance on the Roman Pontiff, in which he was supported by the English Parliament, who, by an act, declared the King supreme head of the Church of *England*, granting him the first fruits and tenths of the revenues of all benefices, together with the power of nominating to all Bishoprics. Another act was also passed to deprive all persons charged with treason from the privilege of sanctuary; and thus the power of the Pope ended in this kingdom.

The Protestant religion being established by King *Edward* VI. Bishop *Voisey* resigned his Bishopric into the King's hands, reserving only to himself the rents of the temporalities, and retired to the place of his nativity, *Sutton Colefield*, which he greatly improved by buildings, procured for it a charter of incorporation, the grant of a weekly market, and established a manufacture of kerseys.

A. D. 1550. Miles Coverdale.

44th. *Miles Coverdale*, on the resignation of Bishop *Voisey*, was promoted by King *Edward* VI. to this See, and consecrated by *Thomas Cranmer*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, at *Lambeth*, in 1550. He was educated in a Convent, in *Yorkshire*, where he took upon himself the habit of a Monk; but, observing the dissolute lives of his companions, he left the monastery, and closely applied to reading and studying the holy scriptures; from which, being convinced of the errors of the Romish church, he became a zealous Protestant, and assisted *Mr. Tindal* in his translation of the Bible into *English*. He also wrote several treatises against the doctrines of the then prevailing church, which made him obnoxious to the prelates and clergy, who persecuted him with the greatest acrimony. He escaped their malice by privately retiring into *Germany*, where he set up a printing press, and printed a great number of Bibles (of his own translation) in the *English* language, and sent them into *England*, where they were eagerly sought after, upon the profits of which he then chiefly subsisted.

A zealous Protestant.

Is forced to retire into Germany, and there prints the Bible in the English language.

This coming to the knowledge of *Stokesly*, Bishop of *London*, and other Prelates, they, in order to prevent the dispersion of the books among the people, as it would open their eyes, and too much expose the fallacy of the Romish doctrine, bought them all up thinking no more would be sent over; in this however they were egregiously mistaken; for the money paid for the books being remitted to *Mr. Coverdale*, it enabled him

to print a great number, which being secretly sent and dispersed over the kingdom greatly promoted the increase of the Protestant religion.

Keeps a school for his subsistence.

From this the Prelates did all in their power to entrap him; but he, well acquainted with his danger, retired farther into *Germany*, for better security, and put himself under the protection of the *Elector Palatine*, who was a Protestant. There he earned at first a scanty subsistence, by keeping a school for young children; but, by diligent application, having acquired the *German* language, the *Elector* gave him a benefice, named *Burgh-saber*, on the profits of which, with the friendly remittances of the *Lord Cromwell*, he lived comfortably during his exile.

Is promoted by the Elector Palatine.

Returns to England.

On the accession of King *Edward* VI. he returned to *England*, where he was much caressed, particularly by his kind patron, *Lord Russel*, who took him into his family and made him his chaplain: he attended his Lordship during his expedition into the west, for the suppression of the *Devon* and *Cornish* rebels; and was soon after, for his exemplary piety, zeal for the Protestant religion, and great knowledge of the scriptures, deservedly promoted to this vacant Diocess.

Is made Bishop of Exeter.

During his church government he gained the esteem of all, by his benevolent disposition, extensive charity, and unaffected piety: he continually exercised his duties as a pastor, preaching every sabbath and holy day, and reading prayers twice a week, in one or other of the churches in this city, insomuch that he was compared to one of the primitive Bishops.

Bishop Coverdale is deprived.

This sunshine of the gospel did not last long; for King *Edward* dying, and his bigotted sister, *Mary*, getting possession of the reins of government, this good Bishop was deprived of his See, having held it about three years; and notwithstanding the malice of the Papists, who violently hated him, and had sworn his death, yet providence delivered him out of their hands, by the intercession of the King of *Denmark*, to whom he was suffered to retire.

And again retires into Germany.

After residing there some time he went again into *Germany*, to his former friend and protector, the *Elector Palatine*, who reinstated him in the benefice of *Burgh-saber*, in which station he continued till the death of Queen *Mary*.

Returns to England, but refuses to be reinstated in his Diocess.

On the restoration of the Protestant religion, by Queen *Elizabeth*, he returned to his native country, but such was his humility that he could not be prevailed on to return to his Diocess. During the latter part of his life he lived privately, in *London*, exercising the duties of a minister of the gospel till death put an end to his labours, in a good old age, on the

CHAP. V. 25th of June, 1565; his remains were interred in *St. Bartholomew's* church, behind the *Royal Exchange, London.**

Bishop Voisey restored.

On the deprivation of this exemplary Bishop, *John Voisey* was restored to this Diocess; and for the better settling the *Romish* religion, he (contrary to his usual practice) remained here for some time; but having a strong attachment to his native place, he returned there for the remainder of his life; he died in the 103d year of his age, and was buried in the parish church there.

A. D. 1556. James Troblefield.

45th. *James Troblefield,* (or *Turburvill)* a native of the county of *Dorset,* succeeded Bishop *Voisey,* and was consecrated in 1556. He was descended from a good family, and was gentle and courteous in his disposition; and though very zealous in the defence of the Papal doctrine, he is not taxed with being either cruel or bloody.

Nevertheless, to please his superiors, and that it might not be said he did nothing, he prosecuted and condemned a poor woman *(Agnes Priest)* for heresy, and she was accordingly burnt on *Southernhay.*

He endeavoured to recover part of the lands alienated from the Bishopric by his predecessor, and accordingly succeeded in obtaining from Queen *Mary* the fee-farm rents of the Manor of *Crediton.* On the accession of Queen *Elizabeth* he, refusing to take the required oaths, was deprived of his Bishopric, and committed to prison; but being soon after released he lived for the remainder of his days a private and obscure life; he was interred in the choir of this Cathedral.

1561. William Alleigh.

46th. *William Alleigh,* Professor of Divinity, a learned and zealous advocate for the Protestant religion, and Lecturer of *St. Paul's, London,* was preferred by Queen *Elizabeth* to this Bishopric, and installed the 6th of August, 1561.

During the reign of Queen *Mary* he, being a married priest, was ejected from his living, and for a subsistence practised physic, travelling with his wife from place to place in the north parts of *England,* where they were not known.

His advancement in the church did not alter his disposition; he still continued humble, and constantly fulfilled the duties of his function: he was affable to the rich, and bountiful to the poor; loath to offend, ready to forgive; in short, his life was a continued scene of good actions. He wrote several religious books, particularly one, which he called *The Poor Man's Library.*

* *Mr. Izacke* says he was buried in a Chapel on the south side of his own Church; but this must be a mistake, as an inscription to his memory was remaining not many years since in the above-mentioned church.

Queen *Elizabeth* highly respected him, and sent him yearly a silver cup as a new year's gift. He died, greatly lamented, the 15th of April, 1570; and was interred in the choir of his own Cathedral, near the high altar, under a marble stone, on which was the following inscription:—

Reverendus Pater Gulielmus Alleigh Exoniensis Episcopus, acerrimus Evangelicæ veritatis propugnator, morum probitate præcelebris, bonarum Disciplinarum mirabili scientia clarus, in Christo Domini sub hoc marmore quiescit. Obiit Decimo Quinto Aprilis, Anno Domini 1570.

A. D. 1570. William Bradbridge

47th. *William Bradbridge*, Professor of Divinity, and Dean of *Salisbury*, was consecrated Bishop of this Diocess, at *Lambeth*, on the 24th of April, 1570. He left no great memorials behind him, except that he seldom resided at his Episcopal Palace, but preferred a country residence, which was very troublesome to his Clergy, and others who had business with him. After holding the dignity about eight years, he died suddenly, at *Newton Ferrers*, on 29th July, 1578, and was interred on the north side of the choir of his own Church, near the altar, under a plain altar tomb, over which is a tablet in the wall of the choir, and on which was an inscription, but it is now entirely obliterated, and whitewashed over: there is still a shield remaining, on which is his coat of arms, a pheon argent, carved in relievo.

1578. John Wolton.

48th. *John Wolton*, a native of *Lincolnshire*, Canon Residentiary of this Church, succeeded, and was consecrated at *Lambeth*, August the 24th, 1578. He very early professed the Protestant religion, and which doctrine he most zealously preached: this making him obnoxious to the Roman Catholics he was forced to take refuge in *Germany* during the reign of Queen *Mary*.

On his return his eminent learning and pious principles being noticed by Queen *Elizabeth* she preferred him to the Church, and at length to this Diocess, which he worthily governed fourteen years, and dying, on the 13th of March, 1593, was interred on the south side of the choir of this Cathedral, near which a monument (in an antique and most wretched taste) is erected to his memory; on it is inscribed the following epitaph:—

Epitaphium in obitum Reverendissimi Patris Johannis Woltoni Episcopi Exoniensis.

Hic jacet, haud jacet hic tumulo quem credis in esse,
Terra nequit tantum contumulare virum,
Ingenium, genium, mores, pietatis honores,
Eloquiumque pium busta perusta tegent
Falleris, Ultonus tonus est, sic spiritus unde
Hoc nostri? tonus est cælestis orbe tonans.

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A. D. 1593. Gervis Babington.

49th. *Gervis Babington*, born in this county, was translated to this See, from *Llandaff*, and consecrated the 2nd of May, 1593. He alienated the valuable Manor of *Crediton*, the largest part of the temporalities left to this Bishopric, in favor of *Sir William Killegrew*; and after holding the See about three years he was translated to *Worcester*.

1597. William Cotton.

50th. *William Cotton, D. D.* after the translation of Bishop *Babington*, was consecrated to this Diocess, the 16th of March, 1597. He was a native of *London*, and before this promotion was Archdeacon of *Lewes*, and Canon Residentiary of *St. Paul's*. He paid great attention to the duties of his Episcopal office near twenty-three years; he died the 26th of August, 1621, and was interred in the south aisle of his own Cathedral, where a stately monument was erected to his memory. His statue lies at full length, in Episcopal robes, well executed in alabaster, painted in proper colours: on a large tablet over the statue is the following epitaph, now partly obliterated:—

Memoriæ Reverendi Patris Dignissimi Præsulis Domini Gulielmi Cottoni olim Exoniensis Episcopus Sacrum.

Venentur titulos alii atque encomia captent,
Tu propria virtute nites (Dignissime Præsul!)
Corda virum tumulus tibi sunt Epitaphia linguæ
Virtutisque tuæ tituli quæ dissita multis;
Juncta tibi zelus prudens, prudentia mista
Serpentem innocua caute Moderata Columba
Fœta operumque fides, opera edita, & abdita mundo,
Abdita (sic humilis pietas jubet) edita cælo!
Mite supercilium, facies augusta, sereni
Vultus, majestas frontis veneranda serena.
Ira fugax, solem raro visura cadentem
Mensa benigna, domusque patens, aditusque paratus
Condivit tua dicta lepos gravitasque leporum,
Pacificis placidus, tantum hostis seditiosis.
Non tibi sublimi mores insede superbi
Vita nec in prima (ut multis) fuit ima Cathedra
Prælatusque gregi, sed non elatus honores es.

And underneath is the following couplet:—

A Paulo ad Petrum pia te Regina vocavit
Cum Petro & Paulo Cæli Rex arce locavit.

1621. Valentine Cary.

51st. *Valentine Cary*, Dean of *St. Paul's*, and Master of *Christ's College, Cambridge*, was, on the death of Bishop *Cotton*, consecrated Bishop of *Exeter*, the 20th of November, 1621. He held this See almost six years, and died in *London*, on the 10th of June, 1626, and was buried in *St. Paul's* Cathedral; but a handsome monument was soon after erected to his memory in the north aisle of his own Church, where his

effigy lies at full length, beautifully represented in alabaster; over the effigy is the following inscription:— CHAP. V.

IN MEMORIAM VALENTINI
CARY OLIM HUJUS ECCLESIÆ EPI.
QUI OBIJT X°. JUNIJ MDCXXVI.

And on the plinth of the cornice is the following legend:—

SANCTUS JESU CHRISTI PURGAT
ME AB OMNI PECCATO.

52nd. *Joseph Hall*, a native of *Leicestershire*, succeeded *Bishop Cary*, and was consecrated on the 23rd of December, 1626. This Bishop's piety and godliness were most exemplary, his charity universal, and learning most eminent: of these the voluminous works he left behind him will be a sufficient testimony as long as the *English* language shall exist. After holding this See about fourteen years he was translated to *Norwich*, where, notwithstanding his advanced age, he continued his studies to the last; and expired (as it were with the pen in his hand) on the 8th of September, 1656. He was interred in *Hyem* church, near *Norwich*. By his last will he desired that he might not be buried with any funeral pomp, and therein declared that "*he did not hold God's house a meet repository for the bodies of the greatest saints.*" A. D. 1626. Joseph Hall.

53rd. *Ralph Brownrig*, Doctor of Divinity, a gentleman of *Suffolk*, was, on the translation of Bishop *Hall*, nominated to this See, and consecrated the 3rd of May, 1642. He possessed the title of Bishop near eighteen years, but enjoyed little of the profits; for the civil wars commencing soon after his promotion, and the Puritans prevailing, Episcopacy was abolished, and all the temporalities of the Church seized into the hands of the Parliament Commissioners, the residentiary houses of the dignified clergy either sold or granted to their own creatures, and the church made a scene of desolation. From these circumstances this Bishop never took possession of this See, nor once visited it, but lived a private life in *London*, where he died, (before the Restoration) on the 7th of December, 1659, and was buried in the *Temple* church. 1642. Ralph Brownrig.

54th. *John Gauden*, Doctor of Divinity, born in *Essex*, was, on the happy restoration of Monarchy, and consequently Episcopacy, appointed by King *Charles* II. to this See, and consecrated on the 2nd of December, 1660. On his first visitation he was met by a great number of gentlemen of the highest distinction in the city and county of *Devon*, who formed a grand cavalcade, and triumphantly conducted him to the Cathedral, amidst the acclamations of thousands. He filled the Episcopal chair about a year and a half, and was 1660. John Gauden.

CHAP. V. then translated to *Worcester*, where he died, on the 21st of September, 1665, and was buried there.

A. D. 1662. Seth Ward. 55th. *Seth Ward, D. D.* of *Hertfordshire*, succeeded Bishop *Gauden*, being promoted from the Deanry of this church; he was consecrated on the 20th of July, 1662. In 1664 he consecrated a new burial ground, at the lower end of *Southernhay*, and dedicated it to the *Holy Trinity*, on which occasion the following verses were written and published:—

"*What bold fac'd Sadducee dare now mistrust*
That long'd-for ressurrection of the just?
Whose martyr'd temples, which before our eyes
Were once distom'b, more beautiful arise;
And that the saints have elbow-room to rest,
This day a plat profane is truly blest!
Thou angel of our church, may'st thou ne'er be
Translated, till to immortality!
That all our foes who do us disregard,
May be kept out by this our well-fenc'd WARD."

Bishop Ward was translated from this Diocess to that of *Salisbury*, the 5th of September, 1667.

1667. Anthony Sparrow. 56th. *Anthony Sparrow, D. D.* author of the *Rationale* on the Common Prayer, was elected, on Bishop *Ward's* removal, to this See, consecrated in *London* the 3rd of November, 1667, and installed (by proxy) on the 23rd of the same month. After holding the dignity about nine years he was translated to the Bishopric of *Norwich*.

1676. Thomas Lamplugh. 57th. *Thomas Lamplugh* was consecrated Bishop of *Exeter* at *Lambeth*, by *Gilbert*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, the 12th of November, 1676. On his receiving the news of the Prince of *Orange* landing at *Torbay*, he immediately set off post for *London*, and was the first that carried the unwelcome news to the Court; he was rewarded with the then vacant Archbishopric of *York*, which, on his compliance with the change in the government, was confirmed to him by King *William* and Queen *Mary*.

1689. Sir Jonathan Trelawney. 58th. *Sir Jonathan Trelawney, Bart.* (of an ancient and worthy family in the county of *Cornwall*) Bishop of *Bristol*, was removed to this See, and consecrated the 1st of April, 1689. He was an eminent divine, much esteemed for his learning, a sound preacher, and a zealous defender of the civil and ecclesiastical liberties of his country, for which he had been committed a prisoner to the Tower of *London*, as before related. He worthily governed his Diocess near nineteen years; and in 1708 was translated to *Winchester*. He died on the 20th of July, 1721, and was interred at *Plesint*, in *Cornwall*.

1708. Offspring Blackall. 59th. *Offspring Blackall, D. D.* born in *Middlesex*, was

consecrated Bishop of *Exeter* on the 8th of February, 1708. To this Bishop's great zeal and charitable disposition, together with his most strenuous endeavours, posterity is indebted for the foundation of the charity schools in this city. He was a learned and pious prelate, an ornament to the age he lived in, and made his Diocess happy under his government for about nine years; when, on the 29th of November, 1716, he was translated to partake of the joys of heaven. By his last will he desired to be buried without any funeral pomp, and left particular orders that no monument or tomb should be erected to his memory; but his good works will more perpetuate his name than the perishable though elegant touches of the sculptor. His remains were deposited in the chapel, at the upper end of the south aisle of his own Cathedral.

60th. *Lancelot Blackburn, D. D.* Dean of this church, was then elected, and consecrated on the 19th of March, 1717. It is said that he was a perfect courtier, very haughty in his behaviour, and not much beloved by his clergy. He filled the Episcopal chair here about seven years, and was then translated to the Archbishopric of *York*.

A. D. 1717. Lancelot Blackburn.

61st. *Stephen Weston, D. D.* succeeded in this See, and was consecrated in 1724. This Bishop was father of a numerous family, which he placed very advantageously abroad in the world. He was meek and kind in his disposition, charitable to the poor, and discharged the duties of his function with great credit to himself and happiness to his clergy. He died in the year 1741, and was buried in the south aisle of his Cathedral, where an elegant monument is erected to his memory: the base of the monument is of white marble, representing a *kist-vaen*, or stone chest, on which is erected a large sarcophagus of black marble, supported by carved brackets, on which an angel stands, with wings expanded, about five feet in height, and finely executed in white statuary marble; the figure holds a Bishop's crosier in its left hand, and points with the forefinger of the right to an inscription which is cut on the back part of the monument, of white marble, in form of a pyramid: on the upper part, in two shields, are his Lordship's arms, impaled with those of his Diocess and of his wife, emblazoned in their proper colours.

1724. Stephen Weston.

On the pyramid is a long Latin inscription recording his amiable disposition, extensive charity, zeal for the established religion, and well governing his Diocess; also a short memorial of his amiable widow and relict *Lucia Weston*, who was interred in the same vault with her husband.

62nd. *Nicholas Clagget*, on the death of Bishop *Weston*, was elected and installed in this Diocess, which he possessed about four years.

1742. Nicholas Clagget.

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A. D. 1747. George Lavington.

63rd. *George Lavington*, Doctor of Divinity, succeeded Bishop *Clagget*. This worthy and venerable Divine was universally beloved and respected for his humility, charitable benevolence, and strict attention to the duties of his function. He left behind him one daughter, an inheritor of his virtues, wife to the *Rev. Nutcombe Nutcombe*, Chancellor of this church. He worthily governed the Diocess upwards of fifteen years, and died on the 13th of September, 1762, greatly lamented, and was interred in the south aisle of his own church, behind the Bishop's throne. On a plain marble tablet, fixed on the back of the throne, is the following beautiful and just eulogium to his memory:—

To the Memory of George Lavington, L. L. D.
Who having distinguished himself
By a conscientious and disinterested attachment
To the cause of liberty and the Reformation,
Was successively advanced to dignities
In the Cathedrals of Worcester and St. Paul,
And lastly to the Episcopal chair of this church.
Endowed by nature with great abilities,
Rich in a great variety of acquired knowledge,
In the study of the holy scriptures consummate,
He never ceased to improve his talents
Nor to employ them to the noblest purposes.
An instructive, animated, and convincing preacher,
A determined enemy to idolatry and persecution,
A successful exposer of pretence and enthusiasm,
Happy in his services to the church of Christ:
Happier, who could unite such extensive cares
With a strict attention to his immediate charge;
His absences from his Diocess were short and rare,
And his presence was endeared to his clergy
By an easy access and graceful hospitality,
A winning conversation, and condescending deportment:
An unaffected scantity dignified his instructions,
And indulgent candour sweetened his government.
At length, having eminently discharged the
Duties of a man, a christian, and a prelate,
Prepared by habitual meditation to resign
Life without regret, to meet death without terror,
He expired, with the praises of God upon his lips,
in his 79th year, September 13th, 1762.

1763. Frederic Keppel.

67th. The *Honourable Frederic Keppel*, third son of the Earl of *Albermarle*, was elected and consecrated Bishop of this Diocess, in the year 1763. A false report having been propagated that he had voted in the House of Lords for the

tax on cider, he was much insulted by the populace on his first coming to *Exeter;* but his great affability and dignity of behaviour soon removed this odium, and he was greatly caressed. He expended great sums on the Bishop's Palace, which was very much out of repair, having been sadly neglected by his predecessors, and also made great additions to it. A complaint being made of the hardships which the inferior clergy laboured under from the smallness of their salaries, he caused a strict enquiry to be made, and after a thorough investigation he ordered their incomes to be increased according to the value of the benefices under which they served their cures. When he had held this See for some time his Majesty gave him the Deanry of *Windsor*, which he held in commendam with his other benefices; but these he did not enjoy long, as he died within a few years, in the flower of his age, at his Deanry-house there, and was interred in the Collegiate Church.

A. D. 1778. John Ross.

68th. *John Ross, D. D.* was promoted to this Diocess, and installed (by proxy) on the 3rd of February, 1778. He was unmarried, of a mild disposition, affable to all, kept but few servants, and lived retired without any pomp or ostentation. He held the See about fourteen years, and dying at his Episcopal house here, was interred in the south aisle of the Cathedral, where a small but neat marble tablet is erected to his memory, on which is the following modest inscription:—

John Ross, Bishop of Exeter,
Born at Ross, in Herefordshire,
June 25th, 1719,
and Died August 19th, 1792.

1792. William Buller.

69th. *William Buller, D. D.* uncle to *Judge Buller*, and uncle to *James Buller, Esq.* of *Downes*, near *Crediton*, was a descendant from the ancient and truly respectable family of the *Bullers* of *Devon* and *Cornwall.* He was Dean of this church when his Majesty King *George* III. with his royal consort and daughters condescended to visit this city, and to accept the offer of his residentiary-house for their accommodation; and his Majesty being well pleased with the great attention and respect paid him by the Dean soon after removed him to the more valuable Deanry of *Canterbury;* and on the death of Bishop *Ross* recommended him to the Dean and Chapter, to be by them elected Bishop of this Diocess, and he was accordingly installed (by proxy) in the year 1792. He filled the high station with great dignity during the short time he enjoyed it: he was greatly respected, and died much lamented: his remains were interred in the south aisle of his Cathedral, opposite the door leading to the Bishop's Palace, and a small elegant monument, of black and white marble, is erected to his memory in the

CHAP. V. transverse aisle, behind the high altar, with the following inscription :—

William Buller, D. D.
Bishop of Exeter,
Born at Morval, in the county
of Cornwall,
August the 20th, 1735,
Died December the 12th, 1796.

A. D. 1797. Henry Reginald Courtenay.

70th. *Henry Reginald Courtenay,* Doctor of Divinity, rector of *St. George's, Hanover Square, London,* son of *Henry Reginald Courtenay, Esq.* sometime member of parliament for *Honiton,* and grandson to *Sir William Courtenay, Bart.* of *Powderham Castle,* succeeded Bishop *Buller* in 1797.

1803. John Fisher

71st. On the death of Bishop *Courtenay,* (which happened in *London,* where he was interred) *John Fisher, D. D.* Canon of *Windsor,* and Chaplain to the Queen, was elected in his room, and consecrated at *Lambeth,* by the Archbishop of *Canterbury,* on Sunday, July the 24th, 1803, and soon after making his public entry into this city, he was received with the usual respect and dignity. He is now the seventy-first Bishop of this Diocess.

End of the Fifth Chapter.

CHAPTER VI.

GENERAL AND PAROCHIAL DESCRIPTION.

A GENERAL description of this ancient city has already been given in the former part of this work; therefore I shall not tire the reader's patience with needless repetitions.

The wisdom of our ancestors in their choice of this site for the capital of the *Danmonii* must be evident to every curious observer, whether they consider it for the strength of situation or for health and convenience: for the former no site could better answer their purpose, situated on the sloping part of a hill, washed at the foot by a river, which no doubt, in those ages, formed an impassable morass, from the flux of the tide and stagnated floods, and which, as the river was not banked within bounds, extended over all the valley between the city and the rising grounds at *Bowhill*. From the river, all the north side, entirely up to the castle, is elevated ground, with a steep ascent; and through the bottom a brook spread itself, which, from reasons above mentioned, must have rendered the ground deep and marshy, and consequently the approach very difficult: from the castle to the river nature was assisted by sinking a deep fosse; and it is probable that more care was taken for the fence on this side in after ages, as the only remains of towers are (excepting one) on this part of the walls.

As to the health and convenience of their chosen spot no place in the neighbourhood could exceed it: to the north and north east it is covered by the heights of *Stoke*, which screen it from the bleak winds from those points; and being open to the south and west it enjoys the prolific benefits of the sun.

The prospect from the city walls is truly delightful: the eye extends over a large tract of well cultivated country, diversified with parish churches, villages, gentlemen's seats, farm houses, woods, and hedgerows, bounded by the bleak and uncultivated hills of *Haldon*, *Penhill*, and others, which terminate the prospect: it is also highly enriched by the estuary, or arm of the sea, from *Topsham* to *Exmouth;* the navigable canal, the meanders of the river *Exe*, and the buildings erected on the

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different heights, particularly *Lord Courtenay's Belvidere*, the *Obelisk*, on *Haldon*, *Lawrence Castle*, on *Penhill*, built by the late *Sir Robert Palk*, with *Whitestone Church* and *Tower:* nor is that necessary article of water wanting, as besides the vicinity of the river the whole of the hills abound in springs; it is also easily procured by means of wells, which are of no great depth.

Ancient government of the city.

The form of the city government during the *British* and *Roman* period is now unknown; but in the *Saxon* era the chief magistrates were four in number, and were termed *Portgreves*, from *Porta*, a maritime town, and *Greve* a ruler; after the *Norman* conquest they were reduced to two, who were styled *Præfects*, or *Provosts;* but these magistrates had very little authority, as most of the judicial power was engrossed by the Earls of the county and Bishops of the Diocess: this continued till the reign of King *John*, who in the second year of his reign, A. D. 1200, granted to the Citizens a charter empowering them to elect a *Mayor*, and two other officers, by the name of *Ballivi*, or *Stewards;* these stewards were some time afterwards increased in number to four.

Present government

By several charters which have been granted by succeeding Monarchs the present government is invested in a Mayor, eight Aldermen, and fifteen Common Councilmen, who form the body corporate of the chamber, and have, by their charters, great power and authority lodged in their hands.

The Mayor, Recorder, and the eight Aldermen are Justices of the Peace, within the city and county of the city; and are also (except the junior Aldermen) Justices of the Quorum; they have power to hold Courts of Goal Delivery, Quarter Sessions, &c. for trials of murders, felonies, and all other crimes committed against the peace of our Sovereign Lord the King, (except in cases of high treason) within the city and county of the same.

The Mayor is chosen annually, on the Monday after the Feast of *St. Matthew*, the Evangelist, by the Freemen assembled in Common-Hall for that purpose, out of two members of the Chamber, who have been previously nominated to them, by the Justices and Common Council, according to the charter of King *Henry* VII. At the same time the Chamber appoints four respectable Citizens to the office of Bailiffs, or Stewards; one of which, chosen out of their own body, is likewise appointed Receiver-General of all the rents and revenues belonging to the city.

The Mayor holds his court every Monday and Saturday, at the Guildhall; and the Stewards hold a court every Saturday at the same place, which is called the Stewards' court, where

they preside as Judges, and try actions of debt: to this court belong six Attornies, who must be freemen of the city; and these alone may act as Solicitors in it.

There is also a Recorder, Sheriff, Under-Sheriff, Town-Clerk, Chamberlain, Deputy Town-Clerk, Sword-Bearer, four Sergeants at Mace, (who are termed *Sub-Ballivi)* and four Staff-Bearers, or Scavengers, so called from their preceding the Mayor, &c. in all public processions, with brass-headed staves. One of the Sergeants and a Staff-Bearer constantly attend in turn at the Mayor's house to wait on him and to carry messages: there is likewise a Headborough, or Captain Constable, who issues all precepts to the other Constables for billeting soldiers, impressing waggons, &c. and thirteen other Constables for the city, who are sworn to attend the Mayor every Sunday that he goes in state to the Cathedral; and every Monday to and from the Guildhall.

There are twelve Constables also for the county of *Exeter*, who attend only at Quarter Sessions and some particular occasions. Other officers are Wardens of the Shambles, Keeper of the Sheriff's Prison, &c. The Commissioners of the Court of Requests, for the recovery of small debts under forty shillings, are chosen from the principal Citizens, at Wardmote Courts. The government of the poor is invested in the hands of a different Corporation; but their rates are subject to the inspection of the Justices, and must be signed by them. In short, the Police of the city is well regulated; enormous crimes are seldom committed; small offences are punished with clemency; and though no nightly watch is kept the streets are as quiet at night (notwithstanding the numerous inhabitants) as those of a country town.

Rougemont Castle.

The Castle.

This ancient Castle is situated on the highest part of the hill, and at the northern extremity of the city: it owes its origin to the *Saxons*, as appears evidently from the strong and stately gateway still remaining, (the original entrance from the city) and which is perhaps as venerable a vestige of *Saxon* fortification as any now existent in this kingdom. It consisted of an inner and outer gate, flanked by strong curtains, supported by

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buttresses; on the top of the gate are lunettes and machiolations for throwing down offensive things on the besiegers in case of an attack; and in the inner gate there are grooves for letting down a portcullis. The whole of the gateway projected from the wall and flanked the ditch: it is now used as a black-hole for offending soldiers, and withinside is built a guard-house and store-rooms for the East Devon regiment of Militia.

The area of the Castle, within the walls, is but small, and is of an oval form; at the upper end is a large, plain, and convenient building, containing spacious courts for holding the Assizes, County Courts, and other public business of the county; a Chapel, rooms for the Judges, Grand Jury, with suitable offices for the Sheriff, County Clerk of the Peace, &c. Opposite the guard-house is a neat house for the Castellain, and on the banks, within the walls, are planted a number of elms, and the area is neatly gravelled.

On the top of the ramparts is a pleasant walk, from which is a delightful prospect of the city, surrounding country, and part of the British Channel. Within the area of the Castle was a small ancient Chapel, formerly collegiate and well endowed, which was taken down a few years since.

History is silent as to the time of the first erection of this fortress; but that it was standing before the *Norman* conquest is evident from the Conqueror's altering its gates, in token (as related) of his victory, and granting it to *Baldwin de Brioniis*, one of his *Norman* followers; and about this period we may date the alteration of its name to *Rougemont Castle*, which is clearly of *Norman* derivation, and signifies *red hill*.*

From the family of *De Brioniis* it came by marriage to the *De Breweres*, one of whom founded and endowed a collegiate church within the same, dedicated to the *Virgin Mary*, to which he annexed four Prebendaries, viz: *Loeghen*, near *Exeter*, with *Clisthays; Cutton*, with the tithing of *Hemington*, in the county of *Somerset; Carswell*, in the Manor of *Kenn;* and *Ash Clist:* the last of which was given to the Abbey of *Torr*, by *Robert de Courtenay*, Viscount of *Devon*.

It is on record that in the reign of King *Stephen*, A. D. 1140, *Baldwin de Riveriis*, taking part with Queen *Maud*, fortified this Castle and expended great sums of money on it, but that after a long and tedious siege he was obliged to capitulate, and seek refuge in the *Isle of Wight*. From the *De Breweres* it came by marriage to the *Courtenays*, Earls of *Devon*, many of whom resided in it with great state; and in

* The *British* name of *Exeter*, *Caer-ruth*, signifies the same; which has caused some to conjecture that the Castle retained its *British* name till the time of the Conquest.

the year 1216, and the eighteenth of his reign, King *John* sent his commission to *Robert de Courtenay*, who had then the custody of the Castle, to admit *William de Brewere*, with his soldiers, into the said Castle, to assist him in the defence of it: and about the same time ordered £30 to be issued from his Treasury to pay the soldiers in garrison there.

In the reign of King Henry III. 1217, the custody of this Castle, with the honours appertaining to it, were claimed by Prince *Henry*, eldest son of *Reginald*, Earl of *Cornwall;* but the King, by his writ, confirmed the possession to *Robert de Courtenay*. Notwithstanding this the King seized the Castle into his own hands, and appointed *Robert de Albermarle* the governor of it; but in the month of May following he granted it again to the said *Robert de Courtenay*, in whose possession it continued till the year 1232, when the King seized this and many other Castles in order, as it is said, to deprive the Barons of their strong places of refuge: and thus the *Courtenays* were deprived of the custody of the Castle after its having been in their and their ancestors possession nearly two hundred years.

In 1247 *Richard*, Earl of *Cornwall*, the King's brother, held the custody of *Rougemont Castle*, which he fortified and retired to for security, during the wars between the King and his Barons, and resided there for some time: it continued in the possession of the Earls of *Cornwall* till the year 1336, the tenth year of King *Edward* III. who creating his son, *Edward*, Prince of *Wales* and Duke of *Cornwall*, this Castle, with a small district adjoining, (formerly the Castle garden) now termed *Bradninch*, was annexed to the said Dutchy, and it hath ever since continued a parcel of it.

In the twenty-first year of *Richard* II. 1397, (the title of Prince of *Wales* lying dormant) the King created *John Holland*, Earl of *Huntingdon*, Duke of *Exeter*, and granted him the government of the Castle, which the Duke highly beautified, and built a stately palace in it for his own residence; but on the accession of King *Henry* IV. who created his son, *Henry*, Duke of *Cornwall*, it again reverted to that Dutchy, and continued to be a royal garrison down to the reign of *Edward* VI. the governors being appointed by the Dukes of *Cornwall:* for we find that during the rebellion of the commons of *Devon* and *Cornwall* there was a party of soldiers in the Castle who were not under the subjection of the Magistrates of the city.

During the unhappy dissensions between King *Charles* I. and the Parliament, it was then considered as a place of strength, and several pieces of cannon were mounted on its walls: but on its surrender to the Parliament forces it was

CHAP. VI. dismantled, by order of *Oliver Cromwell*, and all its towers and battlements destroyed.*

There is not the least vestige of the ancient buildings remaining, except what has been already mentioned; but in the great alterations which have been made of late years many relics of antiquity have been discovered; such as *Roman* and other coins, pieces of armour, arrow-heads, broken cannon, and human bones. In the old Armoury, at the end of the Chapel, was a large collection of ancient armour, consisting of helmets, morions for foot soldiers, back and breast pieces, &c. which were either dispersed among the curious, or throw by as old iron: the remainder is now lodged under the gallery, in the Nisi Prius court.

Before I enter into a parochial description I shall give a brief account of the Cathedral, its principal ornaments and curiosities, and the monumental inscriptions not mentioned in the Ecclesiastical History; together with a summary view of other particulars worth describing.

The Cathedral Church of St. Peter.

Cathedral. This Church was, according to *Leland*, dedicated originally to *St. Peter* and *St. Paul*, and this seems to be corroborated by the armorial bearing of the See, being two keys in saltier, or; the common emblem of the former; and a sword in pale, argent, hilted, or; the instrument of the martyrdom of the latter.

The principal entrance from the west end presents a view scarcely to be equalled for its magnificence and grandeur, and which would be highly improved were the seats and pews in the nave removed. The just proportion and symmetry of the whole building have a pleasing effect, whilst the spreading of

* It is worthy the trouble of a curious observer to examine the northern tower or bastion of the Castle, (projecting into Northernhay) particularly the pilasters and mouldings round the base, with which it is adorned: it will be observed that the masonry is different, and far superior to any other part of the walls or towers, and that it seems to be of more ancient date than the Saxon times, as well as of better work than is commonly found in their buildings; neither is there any kind of sculpture or armorial bearings to be seen in this or any other part of the tower or walls. The pilasters appear to be of Tuscan order, a style of building unknown to, and consequently never used by, our Saxon or Norman ancestors.

the groins, supporting the vaulted roof, the distant perspective of the gothic screen, upholding the majestic organ, with the partial view of the Bishop's throne, terminated by the eastern window, fill the mind with a pleasing awe and reverence.

Its supposed antiquity.

The origin of this sacred edifice is ascribed to King *Athelstan*, who on or near the site of the *Virgin Mary's* Chapel erected a house of Benedictine Monks; but this must have been destroyed in the total subversion of the city by *Sweyne*, the *Dane;* and no part of the present Chapel can, from its style of architecture, boast of a *Saxon* founder.

Izacke's errors.

It may be probable that the present building was began soon after the removal of the Episcopal chair from *Crediton* to *Exeter*, by *Edward* the *Confessor*. *Mr. Izacke* therefore very erroneously asserts (and what has been echoed since by almost every Historiographer of this Cathedral) that it was not the "opus unius sæculi," but took up 437 years in building.

The foundation of the present Cathedral may with great probability be ascribed to Bishop *William Warlewest*, who, being a *Norman* by birth, might have a predilection for the architecture prevailing in his own country, and which had been introduced there near a century before, deriving its origin from the *Saracens*, in *Spain*. This Prelate was installed the fourth of *Henry* I. 1104; and he soon after laid the foundation of the present choir, as well as those of the north and south towers.

There can be but little doubt, however, that the whole plan of the present edifice (exclusive of the two towers and a portion of the south wall of the nave, where a circular arched doorway leads to the cloisters) originated from Bishop *Quivill*, who was consecrated to this See the tenth of *Edward* I. 1282. This Prelate's taste was equal to his munificence, and to him may not unjustly be given the ascription of patron and founder of the present Church.

The grand design was continued by his successors in the Episcopal chair, and brought to a completion by Bishop *Grandison*, who, it is said, built the two western arches, the front, with its most beautiful façade or screen, and finished the vaulting and roof of the nave; therefore the whole of this august undertaking, from the commencement, by Bishop *Quivill*, to its completion, by Bishop *Grandison*, could not exceed eighty years.

Dimensions

This Cathedral, which is smaller than most others in the kingdom, measures in length (including the walls) 408 feet, in breadth 76 feet, and the height, to the vaulted roof, is 69 feet. The towers, to the top of the battlements, are 130 feet, and

CHAP. VI. the pinnacles, to the summit of the vanes, 36 feet. The interior dimensions are as follow: the *Virgin Mary's* Chapel is in length 57 feet, and its breadth 24 feet; from this Chapel to the entrance of the choir 148 feet six inches; from thence to the west end 174 feet; so that the whole length withinside is 379 feet six inches: the choir, from the altar to the screen, (which separates it from the body of the church) is in length 123 feet, and in breadth 42 feet; and the transverse aisle, from the walls of the towers, measures 138 feet in length.

West front. The west front is formed by an elegant façade, or screen, divided into three parts by two projecting buttresses: in the centre part is the principal entrance into the Church, on the right hand of which is the founder's (Bishop *Grandison's)* Chapel: in the other divisions are smaller entrances, which differ much in their architecture and decorations; and if history had not informed us that the whole was the work of *Grandison* it may naturally be concluded that they were erected at different periods of time.

The principal part of this admirable structure is composed of a plinth, decorated with carved mouldings, on which rises a regular number of divisions, separated by small carved buttresses, supported by demi-angels; in each division are two rows of niches, and on the top are traced battlements, from which angels appear to be issuing in different attitudes: in these niches are rows of statues; those in the lower tier are in a sitting posture, most of them in armour, with their legs crossed, probably erected in memory of the principal commanders in the crusades for the recovery of the holy-land; that on the right hand of the principal entrance being evidently designed for *Godfrey de Boulloinge*, the commander-in-chief: (those on the front of the buttresses in the same tier excepted, which represent religious persons, and supposed to be the four primitive fathers of the Roman Church, or rather the four primitive founders of monastic indolence: three of these statues are decapitated, but the fourth has a mitre on its head.) Those in the upper story are in different kinds of robes, and represent the ancient patriarchs * and apostles, except those on the buttresses, which, by their accompanying attributes, appear to be designed for the four evangelists: there are two in the middle, immediately over the principal entrance, one of which is in a sitting posture, and from his holding in his right hand a crosier, and in the left a book, and having the arms of Bishop *Leofricus*

* These statues have labels flowing from their hands on which originally were inscribed their names. The name *Noah* was a few years ago plainly visible on that in the northern return of the left buttress.

on a shield directly beneath him, it may be justly supposed that it was designed for that Prelate. The adjoining niche is vacant, but, from the arms of *Edward* the *Confessor* beneath, it is evident it contained the statue of that Monarch.

On the front of the upper part of the buttresses are two larger statues, underneath which, on shields, are the arms of the aforesaid Monarch and Prelate; from which it may be inferred that they were also designed for those personages. Over the left entrance are four small niches, in three of which are statues of three of the cardinal virtues, the fourth being now vacant: the first has the scales, representing *Justice;* the second *Fortitude,* bearing a lance and shield; and the third is in a religious dress, holding a heart in her hands, supposed to be designed to represent monastic discipline: each of these statues have crowns on their heads, and under their feet are emblematical figures of their opposite vices.

In the spandrils of the arch of the principal entrance are four angels in a reclining posture; and on the sides of the architraves are four mutilated statues of royal personages, in a sitting posture: over the right hand entrance are two demi-statues of royal persons, and between them a griffon; and on the return of the sides of the buttresses are four other royal personages. The whole number of statues originally in this ancient and venerable screen (exclusive of the angels) are as follows: in the lower tier twenty-six; in the upper thirty-four; and two in the upper fronts of the buttresses; four small ones over the left entrance; and four small ones on the architrave of the principal entrance; in all seventy. Many of the statues, as well as other ornamented parts, are greatly mutilated and decayed, a partial repair of which would very much disfigure the venerable beauty, and a rebuilding would be a work perhaps too costly for the present age.

Behind this screen rises the lofty and majestic front, of a pyramidical form, in the upper angle of which is a colossal statue of *St. Peter,* and in the central part is the great west window, measuring thirty-seven feet in height, and twenty-seven in breadth. This window has been greatly noticed by the lovers of ancient architecture for the beauty of its tracery: it was repaired and new glazed with painted glass in the year 1766; and was the work of that ingenious artist, *Mr. Wm. Peckett,* of *York.* The lower part is divided into nine compartments, seven of which are beautifully painted with whole lengths of *St. Peter,* the *Four Evangelists, St. Paul,* and *St. Andrew;* the other two are enriched with mosaic paintings, and the armorial bearings of different Baronets in the Diocess; of *Drs. Lavington,* late Bishop of this See, and *Littleton,* Bishop of *Carlile,* some time Dean of this Church.

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Over the portrait of *St. Peter* are two coats of the late Dean *Mills;* one impaled with those of the Deanry, the other with that belonging to the office of Precentor; and over the heads of the adjoining portraits are those of the late Chanter *Snow* and Chancellor *Nutcombe Quick*, impaled with those belonging to their stations in the Church: the arms over the four other portraits are those of the Barons *Edgecombe*, *Petre*, *Clifford*, and *Fortescue;* and underneath the portrait of *St. Peter* are the arms of the city of *Exeter*, with the insignia of its privileges —the cap of maintenance, sword, and mace.

Over these compartments are the arms of *Sir Richard Bampfylde*, *Bart.* and *John Parker*, *Esq.* representatives in parliament for the county of *Devon*, and *John Walter* and *John Tuckfield*, *Esquires*, representatives for the city of *Exeter*. The principal tracery over the mullions composes three pointed arches and four circles; these are sub-divided into compartments, in the central and largest of which are the royal arms, and around it are the arms of the *West Saxon* kingdom, *Edward* the *Confessor*, the Prince of *Wales*, the Diocess, and Bishop *Grandison*, together with the union rose, thistle, fleur de lis, and harp.*

In the upper compartments of the circumscribing circle are the arms of the Archbishop of *Canterbury;* and in the others those of the Dukes of *Somerset*, *Beaufort*, *Bolton*, and *Bedford;* the Earls of *Godolphin*, *Granville*, *Orford*, and *Buckinghamshire;* Viscounts *Falmouth* and *Courtenay*, and Bishop *Keppel*. The smaller compartments of this noble window are embellished with the different insignia of royalty and ecclesiastical dignity; the emblems of the different nations composing the British empire; the several orders of knighthood; and on the extreme point of the arch is the holy lamb.†

Other windows.

The two other windows in the front, at the ends of the aisles, were new glazed at the same time, the colours beautifully variegated, representing marigolds and other flowers, which have a most pleasing effect.

The rest of the windows are adorned with beautiful and varied tracery, greatly differing in design, as no two windows

* From the tracery in this interior circle resembling a diagram, composed of three human hearts, intersecting each other, it has been judged a designed representation of the Holy Trinity; and from this circumstance it has, among some people, received the name of the "*Trinity window.*"

† Underneath the city arms is this inscription, *Will. Peckett, Pinxit et Tinxit.* The whole work does great honour to the merit of that ingenious artist; but it is to be feared that the colours are not of so durable a nature as those of the ancients; some of them, particularly the light blues, begin already to scale and decay.

on the same side of the building are alike, though they correspond in their opposites.

Eastern window.

The great eastern window, over the high altar, was repaired and beautified, by the bounty of *Henry Blackburn*, Canon of this Church, in the year 1390; when *Robert Lyen* of this city, Glazier, contracted to furnish the glass at twenty-pence per foot, and for the labour three shillings and four-pence per week for himself, and two shillings for his family, during the time he should be employed on the contract. This window is still in good preservation, and has lately had some additions to the paintings: it contains several whole length portraits, of *Abraham*, *Isaac*, *Jacob*, different saints, and royal personages; particularly those of *Edward* the *Confessor*, and his Queen, *Editha*; also various armorial bearings of the *Plantagenet* and *Courtenay* families, with the different Bishops of this Diocess.

In the year 1768 this window was repaired and great additions made to the painted glass, viz: the arms of the *West Saxon* kingdom, the Archbishop of *Canterbury*, Bishop *Keppel*, &c.

The whole of the windows were originally ornamented with painted glass, as appears by their remains, the colours of which are finely preserved, notwithstanding the length of time since their erection; but alas! those beautiful specimens of the skill and piety of our ancestors experienced the fury of puritanic bigotry in the civil wars, and were wantonly beat to pieces by the soldiery: from the remains many curious pieces have been preserved by the care of the Chapter, and are ingeniously arranged in the different windows of the inner aisles, and other parts of the Church, which are worthy the attention of the curious.

Over each end of the transverse aisle is erected a large and magnificent tower, decorated with *Norman* arches, dentelled mouldings, and other ornaments: each tower has at its four corners lofty pinnacles, crowned with gilt vanes.* These towers appear, from the style of the architecture, to have been designed by Bishop *Warlewest*, about the year 1107; but probably not finished, or built to their present height, during his time.

The south tower, from two semicircular arches still perceivable

* On the north tower was a lofty spire, (in which was hung the clock bell) on the summit of which was a gilt cock, an emblem of *St. Peter;* this spire was taken down about the year 1750, the bell hung lower down in the tower, and the present vanes erected; but though this adds to the uniformity of the building, the lowering of the bell has greatly lessened the deep grandeur of its sound; nor is it heard at that distance it was before the alteration.

CHAP. VI. in the south wall, seems to have been raised on a prior structure; and although the erection of the north tower is ascribed to Bishop *Peter Courtenay*, yet from the similarity of both towers in regard to size and ornamental decorations, they appear to have been designed by the same architect, and that Bishop *Courtenay* only completed or finished it to its present state, and added the clock and bell, from which he obtained the honour of being deemed its founder.

These towers, according to the superstition of the times, were dedicated to their particular saints; that on the south having *St. John*, and the north *St. Paul* for their patrons.

According to the fabric-rolls of the Cathedral the building is constructed of stones from various quarries, the walls being built of *Beer* stone, and the vaulted roof and groins from the quarry at *Silverton*, as that stone was softer and therefore easier to work; the clustered and other columns are of *Purbeck* marble, as appears by the following transcript from the said rolls, made by the late Dean *Littleton*:—"On the day of the Sabbath next after the Feast of *St. Vincent*, A. D. 1332, *William Cannon*, of *Corfe*, in the island of *Purbeck*, compounds with the Lords, the Dean and Chapter of *Exeter*, on account of marble, as well for himself as his father, to the fabric of the nave of the church of *St. Peter*, in *Exeter*, that is to say, concerning eleven pillars and half; for the great, the price of pillars £10 16*s.* making the sum of £124 4*s.*; also a pair of pillars for the base and capitals £15; (the price of every base with the capital and pillar 5*s.*) also for twenty-nine pillars for the cloister, the price of each pillar 9*d.* in the whole £140 5*s.* 9*d.*"*

North tower. In the north tower is a clock of a curious invention for the age in which it was constructed; it points out the hours, days of the month, and moon's age: the latter is described by a globe, (one half of which is black) revolving on its axis, and which presents the size of that luminary. This clock, together with the great bell, is recorded to have been the gift of Bishop *Peter Courtenay*.†

Great bell. The bell, from its size, truly deserves the epithet of great, as it weighs 12,500lbs. which is 2,500lbs. more than the weight of the boasted *Tom*, of *Lincoln*. It has a sonorous and deep note, and is heard at a great distance: it was formerly rung

* From this account it appears that the cloisters were originally supported by marble pillars, though at present there is not the smallest vestige of one remaining.

† Some years since a minute part and dial were added to this clock; the workmanship of the ingenious *Mr. William Howard*, Brass-founder, of this city.

by the great exertions of twenty-four men; it had double wheels and two ropes; but the wheels are now destroyed, and its only use is as a clock bell, and to be tolled every night at the hour of eight: this is the remains of the *Norman* tyrant's *Curfew;* the bell has obtained the name of the Peter bell from that of its generous and noble donor.

South tower.

In the south tower are eleven bells, the largest that are rung in regular peal in this kingdom: the tenor is termed the *Grandison,* from its donor, the Bishop of that name: it weighs 7,552lbs. which is 2,000lbs. more than any other tenor in *England.*

Font.

In the nave, or body of the church, the principal things deserving notice are the *Font,* a beautiful bason of white marble, embellished with cherubims, supported by a black marble pedestal, on a chequered pavement of black and white marble, and encompassed with iron palisades. Great part of the nave is occupied by rows of elevated wainscot seats; but they greatly diminish the grandeur of the building. On the north side is the pulpit, which is a beautiful specimen of joiner's work; on the panels are carved, in alto relievo, the statues of the four Evangelists; the angels are decorated with festoons of fruit and flowers, and on the top of the baldequin is the statue of an angel, blowing a trumpet, finely gilt, the whole being the workmanship of the celebrated *Gibbons.*

Pulpit.

* The *Peter Bell,* together with the three large ones, viz: *Grandison, Stafford,* and *Cobthorn,* in the south tower, being crazed, were new cast in the year 1675. The *Grandison* and eighth bell (named the great nine o'clock bell) were also re-cast in the year 1729. According to the *Rev. Mr. Whitaker* bells were used by the *Romans* to signify the times of bathing, and therefore naturally applied by the christians of *Italy* to denote the hours of devotion, and to summon the people to church. They were so applied, before the conclusion of the seventh century, in the monastic societies of *Northumberland;* and thence they were used from the first erection of parish churches among us. Those of *France* and *England* appear to have been furnished with several bells. The second excerption of King *Egbert,* about the year 750, which is adopted in a French capitulary of 801, commands every priest, at the proper hours, to sound the bells of his church, and then to go through the sacred offices of God. In *France* the bells were at times composed of iron, but in *England* they were frequently made of brass; and even as early as the middle of the tenth century there were many cast of a large size and deep note. Two were given by *Eglebrich* to his own Abbey of *Croyland,* in the reign of *Edward* the Elder; and another, much larger, by his immediate successor, *Turketul:* several were presented by *Dunstan* to the monastery of *Malmsbury,* in the preceding reign of *Edgar.* The number of bells in every church gave occasion to that singular piece of architecture in the *Campanile,* or *Bell Tower;* an addition which is more susceptible of the grander beauties of architecture than any other part of the edifice, and is therefore generally the principal rudiments of it: it was the constant appendage to every parish church of the *Saxons,* and is actually mentioned as such in the laws of *Athelstan.* The custom of ringing regular peals, which now are peculiar to *England,* commenced in the time of the *Saxons,* and was common before the Conquest. Whitaker's History of Manchester

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Opposite the pulpit is an elevated seat for the Bishop, enriched with carving, and below this seat is another for the Mayor: this part of the church is used for morning service, and occasionally for sermons in the forenoon on Sabbath and Festival days.

Almost over the pulpit is a deep gallery (designed, as supposed, for concealing a band of musicians, on particular occasions) the front of which is decorated with angels, playing on various instruments of music; and is worthy the examination of the curious in ancient music.

Over the north porch is a convenient dwelling-house for the bell-toller; the front is embellished with three pyramidical compartments of tracery work, in the centres of which are niches, once occupied by statues.

Gothic screen.

The beautiful gothic screen, which divides the nave from the choir, was supposed to have been erected in the reign of *James* I.* It is supported by grey marble pillars; the pediment, highly enriched with carving, is divided into thirteen compartments, in which subjects of scripture history are portrayed, from the creation to the descent of the Holy Ghost: on the summit of the cornice is a row of carved shields, on which are depicted the armorial bearings and distinctive badges of the different nations composing the *British* empire. This elegant screen

Organ.

supports the organ, which, for size, far surpasses any instrument of the kind in *Europe;* the largest pipes being fifteen inches in diameter, which is two inches more than the much celebrated one at *Ulm*, in *Bavaria.* Beneath this organ is a smaller one, which fronts the choir, and on each of the adjoining groins of the choir are other assemblages of large pipes, the conductors of which are so ingeniously contrived that the whole may be played upon by a single person at one time: the exterior pipes are gilt, and the workmanship excellent: in short, for majestic stateliness and beauty it is not excelled, if equalled, in *England.* By an inscription it appears it was made by *John Loosemore*, in the year 1666: the whole has been lately thoroughly repaired, and the conductors cleared from their filth, by *Mr. Micheau*, Organ-builder, of this city.†

* I was at first led to believe that the screen which supports the organ, and divides the choir from the body of the Cathedral, was erected in the time of King *James* I. from the circumstance of a *Rose* and *Thistle* appearing in the ornamental parts thereof. But whoever examines this screen attentively will easily discover that they were placed there after it was erected; and are of clumsy workmanship when compared with the elegant foliage which surrounds them. By the style of architecture (the arches being very similar to that of Bishop *Stapledon's* monument) it is likely this screen was erected in the time of *Edward* II. or III.

† The organ which formerly occupied the place of this was probably destroyed in the grand Rebellion; for it cannot be supposed that so noted a

The stalls in the choir are neatly wainscoted and enriched with carved mouldings, in antique taste, corresponding to the building. The choir is neatly paved with Portland stones, in form of a square, having at each angle a small square of black marble. Near the centre, on a brass pedestal, in the form of a tripod, enriched with crouchant lions, is a brazen eagle, with expanded wings, supporting the lesson desk; and from the roof of the choir hang two large and superb brass chandeliers. Choir.

On the south side of the choir is the Bishop's throne, elevated high above the floor, and ascended by five steps, its area squares several feet, and in the centre is the Episcopal chair, of crimson velvet, adorned with gold fringe; the back of the throne is hung with crimson velvet, and the cushion is of the same material, with gold fringe and tassels; the curtains are crimson moreen; the canopy is composed of pointed arches, intersecting each other, and from the angles project cherubs, supporting chalices, patens, and other sacred vessels; from the canopy rises a lofty pile of gothic tracery, of a pyramidical form, ending in different spires, and embellished with carvings, mouldings, &c. The whole is greatly admired by connoisseurs in ancient architecture, being esteemed the grandest Episcopal throne in *Britain*. It was originally beautifully painted and partly gilt; and erected by Bishop *Booth*, about the year 1470. Bishop's throne.

Opposite the throne is a very handsome pulpit, which was erected in the year 1560; but it has had many ornamental additions of late years, in which great care has been taken not to blend modern ornaments with the ancient; the Chapter very judiciously restricting themselves to the original design. Choir pulpit.

The area below the altar is divided from the choir by iron rails, with brass pyramidical heads. From this platform there is an ascent of three steps, of black and white marble, to the floor of the altar, which is paved in the same manner, and separated from the steps by another row of balustrades. High altar.

Cathedral as this was without one, as we find them very early introduced into the *British* and *Saxon* churches. "After the conversion of the *Northumbrians* we find an instrument of that name familiarly used in the services of the north, even as early as 660. But the grand combination of instruments which we now denominate an organ was unknown in *Europe* at that period; it was the happy production of an eastern genius; and the first that ever appeared in the west of *Europe* was sent by *Constantine*, the *Grecian* Emperor, to *Pepin*, King of *France*, in 756. The artists of the west availed themselves of the present, and organs were constructed on the continent, and in this island, and erected in some of our Cathedrals before the middle of the tenth century. In the reign of *Edgar*, Archbishop *Dunstan* presented one to the church of *Malmsbury*, in which instrument, (according to the historical description) the pipes were formed, in musical proportions, of brass, and the air was impelled through them by a pair of bellows."

CHAP. VI. The furniture of the altar is sublimely grand, consisting of silver, richly gilt, and the whole appearance is awfully striking, and rises a holy contemplation on the sacred duties there performed. The altar-piece represents a perspective view of the inside of another church, with side aisles, curiously ornamented in the gothic style, and in the centre are the portraits of *Moses* and *Aaron*, supporting the decalogue: the whole of the painting is well performed, and, excepting the damage it received from the saints-militant in the grand Rebellion,* well preserved. It appears, by a date still remaining, that it was painted in the year 1639.

On the south side of the altar are three arched seats, divided by brass pillars, which support a curious pile of ancient architecture, which for the lightness of structure, elegance of workmanship, and neatness of carving, is much admired. It displays the fine taste of ornamental work in the time of *Edward* II.†

Behind the high altar is the ancient sacristy, now unfurnished of its copes, vestments, and other *Romish* paraphernalia.

On the eastern part of the whole building is the chapel of the *Virgin Mary*, which is ascended by steps, and it is enclosed from the upper transverse aisle by a fair screen, in which are folding doors: this screen, owing to the good taste of the present Bishop, Dean, and Chapter, has been lately restored, and a despicable one that covered it taken down. On the architrave of the old screen was the following inscription:—

Hanc Capellam Beatæ Mariæ Virginis ab Athelstano Rege olim fundatam, in Bibliothecam propriis sumptibus convertit Robertus Vilvaine, M. D. Anno Domini, MDCLVII.

It is evident that this chapel is not of *Saxon* construction; it has been supposed to be on‡ the whole site of the church belonging to the house of Benedictine Monks, founded by

* Those anti-christian reformers wantonly fired at the heads of the portraits, and the marks of the bullets are still visible.

† For what purpose or at what time these seats were erected is not now known. The accounts given by some of our historians that they were purposely built for the instalment of *Leofricus*, the first Bishop of *Exeter*, must be erroneous if no part of the present choir was then erected.

‡ "*Mr. William Davey*, of *Exeter*, who has inspected the present building with minute and discriminating attention, contends that the Cathedral did not occupy the site of *St. Mary's* chapel, but was on part of the same ground as the present choir, having its high altar where it still remains. The sanctuary was the most sacred spot; and it is extremely probable that the religious architects of those times would rather extend their building in any direction than remove the site of the host. Besides, *Hokes* only compares the size of

Athelstan, A. D. 932. It was converted into a library by the munificence of *Dr. Robert Vilvaine*, a native of this city, and has been augmented by succeeding benefactors, and particularly by the late *Dr. Glass*, of this city, who bequeathed to it the whole of his extensive and very valuable library.

The following pages will inform the reader of the number of chapels attached to this church; none of which merit a particular description, saving the monuments within them, unless it be that which is dedicated to *St. James;* in this is a building (which *Mr. Carter* calls a mural monument) of very curious workmanship.

In 1796, on opening a grave for Bishop *Buller*, in the south aisle, a human skeleton was discovered, the bones of which were united by wires; and on the forepart of the skull was engraven this inscription: *Opera & Studio Joh. Ritzen et Godf. Schloeri Germanorum*, 1632. *Ætat* 22½ *Fui, eris.*

To give a minute detail of every article worthy notice in this ancient and venerable edifice would require a volume of itself; therefore let it suffice only to say, that by the great care and attention of the late and present Bishop, Dean, and Chapter, the interior parts of the church are kept cleaner and in better repair than most other Cathedrals in *England:* nor are the outer parts neglected, as large sums have been expended in new covering with lead most parts of its extensive roofing, repairing the turrets, new glazing the windows, with many other necessary repairs; and particularly in the year 1803, when the inside was thoroughly cleansed, coloured, and painted, at a very great expence; but much is yet required, which time and former neglect have occasioned. The west front is very much out of repair, as are also many of the turrets: it is therefore hoped that the laudable example of the present Dean and Chapter will stimulate their successors to proceed on so necessary a work.

The ancient constitution of this Cathedral was a Dean and twenty-four Prebendaries; the Dean always included in that number. For some centuries past eight of these Prebendaries have, with the Dean, been called to residence, from whence they take the names of Canons residentiary.* These constitute

the ancient Cathedral to the Lady Chapel."—*Beauties of England and Wales*, vol. iv. page 56. *Mr. Davey* furnished the compilers of that work with a considerable part of their history of this Cathedral, from which the author hereof has taken extracts.

* According to the first establishment of the Chapter of this Cathedral, by Bishop *Brewer*, about the year 1236, no mention is made of Canons exclusively: the original institution is thus worded: "*Viginti et quatuor Canones, sive Prebendarii,*" or twenty-four Canons or Prebendaries; no distinction being made between them.

CHAP. VI. the Chapter, and have the government of the Cathedral Church, and its appendages and peculiars. Vacancies are filled up by election, by the Chapter, from the rest of the Prebendaries.

The Deanry, Precentorship, Chancellorship, and Treasurership, are the four greater internal dignities.

The four Archdeaconries and Sub-Deanry are also called internal dignities.

The great Chapter, which is composed of the whole body, viz: the Dean and twenty-three Prebendaries, is never called together but for the election of a Bishop, Dean, or Convocation Clerk. There is also a Sub-Chanter and Sub-Treasurer.

The Custos and College of Vicars consist of four; the Lay-Vicars are eight. These were a collegiate body corporate till the year 1613, when the Lay-Vicars were disunited, by royal mandate, from the College of Vicars, and their lands wholly vested with the Priest-Vicars. Still however they retain the right of voting at the election of a Custos, or in matters relating to the tythes of *Woodbury*, of which they have a moiety; the whole are subject to the Bishop's visitation. They have their own hall, in which, according to their original institution, they formerly lived at commons; but now they have convenient dwellings in the College, which qualify them to vote for members of parliament for the city, as do the lands in *Woodbury* the College of Vicars for those of the county.

There are five singing men, termed secondaries, (who have each a dwelling-house in the Cloisters) and ten singing boys: these, with the Vicars, form the choir of vocal music. To these may be added an Organist, two Vergers, Bell-toller, and a Beadle. There is likewise an establishment for two morning Lecturers, one every Tuesday and the other every Friday. Divine service is performed three times every day.

We shall now proceed to take a cursory view of the ancient and modern monuments most worthy of attention, which have not been noticed in the Ecclesiastical history, and shall begin with those in the body of the church.

Hugh Courtenay, Earl of Devon.

Nearly opposite to the south door, leading to the Cloisters, is a very ancient table monument, (much mutilated) to the memory of *Hugh Courtenay*, Earl of *Devon*, and his Countess, *Margaret*, daughter of *Humphrey de Bohun*, Earl of *Hereford* and *Essex*, and Lord High Constable of *England*. This Earl *Hugh* died at *Tiverton*, in the year 1377. His lady survived him fifteen years, dying on the 28th of January, 1392; and, according to her last will, was interred in this Cathedral, by the side of her husband.

Sir Philip Courtenay of *Powderham*, the direct ancestor of the present noble *Lord*, *William Viscount Courtenay*, was the fifth son of this illustrious couple. On the covering stone of the

monument lie the mutilated statues of the Earl and Countess, dressed in their robes of state, formerly painted and gilt; but the inscriptions (if there were any) are quite lost.

Sir Peter Courtenay.

Adjoining to this tomb is a large grave stone, inlaid with brass ornaments, within which is the portrait of an armed knight, as large as life, inlaid with the same metal; this stone covers the remains of *Sir Peter Courtenay, Knight*, seventh and youngest son of the aforesaid Earl *Hugh* and his Countess *Margaret*.

Sir Peter was greatly esteemed for his valour in the *French* wars, during the reigns of King *Edward* III. and *Richard* II. and was made governor of the important fortress of *Calais*, and Lord Chamberlain of *England*. He died unmarried, in the year 1409: his epitaph, mentioned by *Prince* and other authors, is now mostly obliterated, but the following copy is preserved:—

Devoniæ natus, comes, Petrusque vocatus,
Regis cognatus, camerarius intitulatus:
Ecclesiæ gratus, capitaneus ense probatus,
Vitæ privatus, fuit hinc super astra relatus,
Et qua sublatus, de mundo transit amatus,
Cælo confirmatusr maneat sine fine beatus.

And which is thus translated:—

The Earl of Devonshire's son, Peter by name,
Kin to the King, Lord Chamberlain of fame,
Captain of Calais, for arms well approved,
Who dying, was above the stars removed;
And well beloved went from the world away,
To lead a blessed life in Heaven for aye!

At the head of this is another brass plate to the memory of *Mrs. Ann Maria Courtenay*, who was interred under the same stone.*

William Sylke.

Under the north tower is a small enclosed chapel, (open at top) in which is interred the body of *William Sylke*, sometime Sub-Chanter of this Church.

This chapel was originally embellished with fine carvings of Romish saints, and pieces of scripture history; and under the front arch is the effigy of a human skeleton, lying at full length on a winding sheet, and over the arch this inscription is still legible:—*Sum quod eris, fueramque quod es, pro me precor ora.*—*William Sylke.* This chapel and monument are now greatly decayed, and in a very ruinous state.

* On opening the grave for the interment of this lady the body of *Sir Peter* was discovered in good preservation, embalmed and wrapped up in a bullock's hide; this account the author received from several credible eye witnesses.

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Captain Dollen.

Just at the angle of the north aisle is a monument, with a long Latin inscription, signifying that *Captain Benjamin Dollen*, to whose memory it is erected, died in this city, on his journey from *London* to *Pentillie*, in *Cornwall*, and was interred just under.

On each side of the principal entrance is a mural monument, that on the north consists of black and white marble, erected to the memory of *Mr. Hereford*, of the county of *Northumberland*, and his wife. The other is of statuary marble:—

Sacred to the memory of Mary Irvine, widow of Lieutenant-Colonel Irvine, who died on the 20th day of December, 1799, aged 24 years.

Underneath is the following inscription:—

Tho' sacred friendship deems thy fate severe,
And fond affection drops a silent tear;
Though childless now desponding parents sigh,
Pour the sad plaint, and turn the streaming eye
To thy cold grave—yet o'er each aching breast
Meek resignation breathes the balm of rest;
Religion whispers peace amidst the gloom,
While pale affliction, musing over the tomb,
Submits, and lowly bends to heav'ns high will;
Hush'd every plaint, and ev'ry murmur still,
Though all lament thy blooming graces fled,
And weep for beauty moulding with the dead,
Thy virtues still the kindred wish shall raise
To meet with thee thy God, and hymn his praise.

There are several other small mural monuments in the nave, but they do not merit a particular description.

Grant.

In the inner north aisle, just within the entrance, and against the wall of the choir, is a neat monument of variegated marble, the workmanship of the celebrated *P. Scheemakers*, on which is the following inscription:—

Juxta S. E.
Joannis Grant S. T. P.
Ecclesiæ divi Dunstani *in Occidente per annos* LIX.
Vicarius, Cathred. Roffensis *Ann.* XLIV. *Præbend.*
Kingsdown *id Com.* Cant. *Ann.* XXVI. *Rector.*
Quot Tituli totidem numerantur meritorum præconia, totidem Extant Virtutum Ecclesiasticarum Testimonia, Eminebat quippe in eo singularis Sanctimonia, Eruditio, Integritas & in difficilimis Temporibus spectata Fortitudo, infame istud Regis Jacobi.
Edicta oppugnare ausa et contemnere: ad extremum usq.
Anglicanæ *vindex Ecclesiæ: satius mala pati quam facere.*

In Consuetudine privata se facilem, & apertum præst abat innocue facetum, et cum dignitate quadam urbanum
Et virtutibus quidem tantis gratiam pretiumq: addiit ipsa Longævitas. Carus adeo omnibus, suisq: amabilis vixit ut etiam
Nonagenarius morte immatura præreptus videretur.
Duas duxit uxores; secundis nuptiis filian Duncombi Colchester *Militis, præclari illius Joannis Maynardi Militis neptem, ex qua Prolem a se progenitam vidit; Liberumq:*
Liberos. Mortuus est VI. *id Quintilis A. D.* CIↃIↃCCXXXVI. *Juxta etiam placide requiescit*
Elizabetha Joannis Grant, *prædicti* Joannis Grant *Filii Archdiaconi* Barum, *Eccles. hujus Canonici Uxor. Dom Dom: Stephani* Exon. *Episc. per Luciam Uxorem. Fœminam Lectissimam, Filia minime indigna Paternarum æmula Virtutum, omnibusq. quæ aut beatissimo Conjugi placere poterant, aut quæ talium parentum Filium decebant, plene ornata. Per Decennium & amplius Comes fidessima, Magnæ Particeps & Auctrix Felicitatis; Duobus Partubus Maritum felicem, at tertio eheu! infelicem fecit Puerperio una-cum Infantulo extincta; Parentibus, Liberis, Amicis, sed maxime Marito amantissimo triste sui Desiderium reliquit, Animam efflans* XVI. *K. Mart.*

Adjoining the door of the Canons' vestry is a small marble monument to the memory of *Edward Drewe, Esq.** with this modest inscription on a plain marble tablet:— Major Drewe.

To the memory of Edward Drewe, Esq. *only son of* Edward Drewe, Barrister, *who lived respected and died lamented, in the 43rd year of his age, and whose remains are interred near this place. Also to the memory of his said father, who lies beneath. And of* Dorothea Juliana, *his beloved mother, buried in* St. Martin's *Church, in this city. This marble was erected as a lasting testimony of regard and affection to a kind brother and tender parents, by* Dorothea Juliana, *wife of* Arthur Kelly, Esq. *of* Kelly.

In a recess in the wall, and near this monument, is an

* This gentleman was a native of this city; he very early expressed an inclination for the army, and on the breaking out of the *American* war procured a commission in the 35th regiment of foot, and went with it to *America*, where he gave such proofs of his military skill and bravery, and particularly at the battle of *Charlestown*, (where he was desperately wounded) that he was deservedly advanced to the rank of Major in the said regiment; but having afterwards some difference with his Colonel (*Cockburn*, who basely betrayed his trust, by surrendering the island of *St. Eustatia* to the *French*) he gave up his commission and returned to *England;* but he never after enjoyed himself, and fell a sacrifice, in the flower of his age, to the villanous aspersions of his enemies.

CHAP. VI. exquisite piece of sculpture, representing a human anatomy, lying at full length on its winding sheet, the flesh entirely wasted, and nothing but the sinews and bones left under the shrunk skin. This memento of the instability of human grandeur, though somewhat defaced, is worthy of a curious inspection; over the arch is this inscription:*

Ista figura docet? nos omnes premeditari qualiter ipsa nocet? mors quando venit dominari.

A little beyond this (in another recess) is an ancient altar-tomb, decorated with rams' faces and other ornaments, in a wretched taste, which clearly demonstrate the low state of the arts about the middle of the sixteenth century. On the cover-stone is this inscription:—

Here lyeth Master Anthony Harvey, Esqr. who died the xxiii. daye of Maye, ao dmi. 1564.

Sir Richard Stapleton.

Near this, and opposite to Bishop *Stapleton's*, is the statue of an armed knight, lying at full length, with his legs crossed, to denote his having been on a crusade to the Holy-land. On the western side of the arch is the statue of a man in an erect posture, and on the opposite side are the head and fore-parts of a horse, held by a man, projecting from the wall; there is neither armorial bearing or any inscription remaining, and the whole is greatly defaced.†

Sir Peter Carew.

Almost opposite to this is a monument on which is represented the statue of an armed knight, in a kneeling posture, before an altar; and on a tablet round the figure are sixteen escutcheons, charged each with the arms of the *Carews*, impaled with other different coats, alluding to the intermarriages of that family, from which the person was descended (not from his having married so many wives, as is vulgarly represented;) over the cornice is a large shield, bearing the arms of the

* There is no other inscription or armorial bearing to denote to whose memory this cenotaph was erected, except the arms of the Diocess; but the vergers inform falsely all visitors that it was erected for Bishop *Lacie*, to ridicule his attempt to fast during the forty days of Lent: human nature could not sustain this rigorous penance above thirty days, when he died, and thus fell a victim to his folly: but there appears to be a great mistake in this traditionary legend, as Bishop *Lacie* was interred on the other side of the aisle, under the wall of the choir, where his plain altar-tomb still remains in situ.

† According to tradition this monument was erected to the memory of *Sir Richard Stapleton*, brother to the Bishop, who was also murdered by the *Londoners*, at *Cripplegate*, (vid. *Speed*) as he endeavoured to enter the city of *London*, to the succour of his brother: his horse took fright at some cripples assembled at the gate, and this occasioned his being thrown to the ground, when he fell an easy prey to the incensed mob. The figures placed on each side of the tomb seem to be allusive to this circumstance.

Carews, quartered with several other coats; the inscription is now so much defaced as to be totally illegible; it was erected to the memory of *Sir Peter Carew*, *Knight*, of *Haccomb*.

Below this, against the wall of the choir, is a plain table monument, the pediment supported by two pillars, and on the tablet is this inscription, in gilt letters:—

Hic situs est, Robertus Hall, Josephi Cl:
Epi: filius primogenitus.
S. S. Theologiæ Doctor facundus:
Hujus Ecclesiæ, Vivus Thesaurius
Mortuus Thesaurus. Vivus Mortuus
Residentiarius. Obiit 29 *die Maii* 1667. *Ætatis Suæ* 61.

There is a small plain marble tablet in the choir wall, on which is the following inscription:—

Near this stone is interred the body of Miss Henrietta Wilhelmina Wyander Piers, who departed this life the 7th day of December, 1764, *aged* 22 *years, sister to Sir William Pigott Piers, Bart. of Iristenaugh, in the county of Westmeath, in Ireland.*

Sir George Speke.

At the upper end of this aisle, in a recess in the wall, (in the small chapel through which is the passage that leads to the Chancellor's house) lies the statue of an armed knight, and over it are several shields, bearing the device of the *Spekes;* there is no inscription remaining on the tomb, but from a stone underneath it may be supposed that it was erected to the memory of *Sir George Speke*, of *White Lackington*, in the county of *Somerset*, maternal ancestor of the present *Lord North*, Earl of *Guildford*.

Judge Doderidge.

In the cross aisle, behind the altar, lie interred the bodies of *Sir John Doderidge, Knight,* (one of the Judges in the Court of King's Bench) and of his lady, daughter of *Sir Amias Bampfylde*, of *Poltimore*. The stones which covered their remains have been removed, and others put in their place; but on the north side of the *Virgin Mary's* chapel two separate monuments are erected to their memory; on these their statues are laid at full length. That of the Judge is clothed in scarlet robes, with a court-roll in his hand, and has been finely gilt; over the statue is an escutcheon of his arms, impaled with that of *Bampfylde;* the epitaph is as follows:—

Learning adieu! for Doderidge is gone
To fix his earthly to a heavenly throne;
Rich urn of learned dust, scarce can be found
More worth inshrined in six feet of ground.
NUnC obiit Do Derig Us JUDeX.

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At the foot of the Judge's statue lies that of his lady, dressed in the fashion of the times she lived in; this has also been painted. On a marble stone is this inscription:—

Lady Doderidge.

Hic jacet Domina Dorothea Uxor Johannis Doderidge Militis, Unius Justiciariorum Domini Regis Ad. Placita coram Rege tenenda assignati, Et filia Amisii Bampfilde Militis, quæ obiit Primo Martii, Anno Domini, 1614.

Dr. Vilvaine.

On the left side of the entrance into this chapel, fixed against the wall, is a small monument to the memory of *Dr. Vilvaine*, the first and greatest benefactor to the library; on it is the following inscription:—

In memoriam Robert Vilvaine *Medicinæ Doctoris, Hac olim Civitate nati atq: de eadem optime meriti, qui obijt* 21 *Februarii,* 1662, *Ætatis Suæ* 87.

James Raillard, Esq.

Corresponding to this, on the other side of the entrance, is a much larger monument, finely gilt, and enriched with scrolls, erected to the memory of *James Raillard, Esq.* a native of *Switzerland*, and an eminent merchant of this city; it has a Latin and Greek inscription. He died the 9th of October, 1692.

The opposite wall of this aisle is filled entirely with modern monuments. The first (opposite to the last described) consists of a lofty pyramid of variegated marble, from which projects a white marble sarcophagus, and over it is a medallion of a female head, weeping; and on a white marble tablet beneath is the following inscription:—

Robert Harvey, Esq.

In memory of Robert Harvey, Esq. *late of the Island of* Grenada, *whose remains were interred in a vault near this place. He departed this life the* 29*th of July,* 1791, *in the* 59*th year of his age.*

Next to this is a monument, the back of which is of variegated marble; on a white marble pyramid are inscribed the following words:—

Canon Baker, &c.

In memory of George Baker, *Archdeacon of* Totnes, *and Canon of this Church, who died the* 28*th of January,* 1772, *aged* 85. *And of Sarah, his daughter, wife of the* Reverend William Hatherleigh, *who died the* 4*th of April,* 1760, *aged* 30; *and were both buried near this place. And of Mary, wife of the above named* George Baker, *and daughter of the* Right Reverend Stephen Weston, S. T. P. *formerly Bishop of this Diocess, who died the* 3*rd of March,* 1777, *aged* 76. *And of* Mary Baker, *daughter of the above named* George Baker, *who died the* 16*th of June,* 1768, *aged* 43.

Adjoining is a neat monument of black and white variegated marble, containing the following elegant Latin epitaph:—

Sub-Dean Barton.

Ad unum suggesti gradum situs est, Philippus Barton, S. T. B.

Hujus Ecclesiæ Cathedralis Canonicus Residentiarius et Subdecanus, necnon Ecclesiæ, Parochialis de Buriton, in Comitatu Huntoniæ, per annos quadraginta quatuor Rector, natus in agro Vigorniensis, In Schola Wintoniensis alumnus dein, Coll. Novi, apud Oxoniensis.—socius floruit.—Orator vere Christianus,—cui, concionibus dum traherentur quotquot inter fuerint erum vin senserunt fructuorum et nitorum; eximiæ Doctus suæ tamen contemplex famæ, utpote precipue Prætor exemplum modestus, quem omni virtute officioque ornatiss ornatissimum propter facilem morum suavitatem consuetudinem jucundissimam simul ac eruditus simant ingenium omnium capax et limatum, pietatem non simulatam, quincunque noverint suspexerunt coluerunt.—mensis Junii die vicessimo quarto, annum agens septuagessimum octavum MDCCXCVI.—*Vitæ futuræ intentus lubens fato cessit.—fratri bene merenti-sepulchrale hoc marmor. —mærens Maria Batchellor poni curavit.*

The next monument is erected to the memory of Bishop *Buller;* which has already been described in the Ecclesiastical History.

Close to this is one of variegated marble, neatly executed, on which is the following:—

Sacred to the memory of Susanna, *wife of* Joseph Bealy, M. D. *who died the* 21*st of April,* 1798, *aged* 22 *years. The amiable qualities of her heart, and an excellent and cultivated understanding, ensured in an extraordinary degree the esteem and admiration of all who knew her. This monument is erected as a tribute to her merits, and as the last testimony of the affection of her disconsolate relatives. Also in the same grave lieth her only child,* Joseph Pool Bealy, *who died the* 16*th of September,* 1798, *aged eighteen months: also the remains of* Ann Susanna Baker, *mother of the above* S. Bealy, *ob.* 4*th of March,* 1800, *Ætat* 42.

The last in this row is a beautiful monument of statuary marble; the sculpture (which is finely executed) consists of an altar, on which is a female figure, in a disconsolate posture, leaning with her left hand on an urn, and holding in her right a burning torch, reversed; underneath, on a marble tablet, is the following inscription:—

Mrs. Rachel O'Brien.

Sacred to the memory of Rachel Charlotte O'Brien, *wife of* Captain E. J. O'Brien, *of his Majesty's twenty-fourth regiment, and daughter of* Joseph Frobisher, Esq. *of* Montreal, *in* Canada. *Her death was occasioned by her clothes catching fire: seeing the flames communicating to her infant, all regard to her own safety was lost in the more powerful consideration of saving her child, and rushing out of the room she preserved its life at the sacrifice of her own. She expired on the* 13*th of December, A. D.* 1800, *in the* 19*th year of her age.*

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Underneath this, on a white marble tablet, representing a piece of drapery, are the following lines:—

If sense, good humour, and a taste refined,
With all that ever graced a female mind;
If the fond mother, and the faithful wife,
The purest, happi'st, characters in life,
If these, when summoned to an early tomb,
Cloth'd in the pride of youth, and beauty's bloom,
May claim one tender sympathizing sigh,
Or draw a tear from pity's melting eye,
Here pause—and be the grateful tribute paid,
In sad remembrance to O'Brien's *shade.*

These five monuments were executed by *Mr. John Kendal,* Statuary, of this city.

Treasurer Hall.

At the upper end of the south aisle (almost opposite to Bishop *Oldham's,* already described) is a stately monument to the memory of Treasurer *Hall.* It is crowned with a lofty curved pediment, supported by two Corinthian columns, their bases and capitals gilt; and on the inflexed curve of the pediment is a large escutcheon, on which are his arms, impaled with those of his wife; on each side of the shield is an angel, in a sitting posture, sounding a trumpet; the base is supported by carved brackets, between which, on another escutcheon, are the arms of *Hall,* impaled with two other coats, over which, by way of crest, is the osfrontis of a human skull, encircled round the temples with gilt laurel, and large extended wings, resembling those of a bat; on each side of the brackets are other skulls. In the centre of the monument is a large oval black marble tablet, enriched with a carved border: the whole of the carving is elegantly executed, (particularly the skulls) and finely painted and gilt; on the tablet is this inscription:—

M. S.
NICOLAI HALL, S. T. P.
Qui hujus Ecclesiæ Thesaurarius Farringdoniensis Rector
Utriusque nuper ornamentum, nunc Luctus et Desiderium,
Privata omnia sacrique muneris officia egregie explendo
Sui ordinis nemo Laudem ampliorem meruit pauci parem,
Maritus et Pater fuit suorum amantissimus,
Et ab illis invicem unice dilectus,
Pastor omni cura in Gregis Salutem sui invigilans,
Concionibus se Pietatis strenuum præbuit Monitorem,
Exemplo Ducem.
Neque minus severam Sacerdotis Gravitatem
Suavissimis temperavit Moribus,
In sanctitate edenda sibi rigidus, aliis jucundus,

In Rebus gerendis Dubium, Prudentiam prius
An inviolatum miremur Justitiæ Studium
Pauperibus minime ostentandi se Causa liberalis
Munificentiam iis suam altiori Rivo
Quo minore Strepitu fluere voluit;
Rara erga Amicos et de se bene merentes Fide,
Offensarum quam cito oblitus,
Beneficii accepti Memoriam nunquam deposuit,
Egregiis hiis Animi solitus parem attulit Modestiam,
Alienæ virtutes Æstimator justissimus haud æquus suæ
Idioque Invidia major plus merito Gloriæ,
Quoniam vivus neglexerat,
Moriens consequutus est.
Obiit VII. *Cal. Maii Anno Domini* MDCCIX.
Optimo Parenti
Nic. Hall, *Filius natu maximus*
Posuit.

Just below, against the wall of the choir, are three modern monuments, adjoining each other. The first is composed of white statuary marble, and consists of a square tablet, over which, in a circular pediment, is represented, in basso relievo, an angel, with his face hid in his drapery, reclining on an altar, on which is placed an urn, the whole overshadowed with branches of cypress; and underneath is the following inscription:

Mrs. S. P. Clarke.

Sacred to the memory of Sarah Price Clarke, *who was the only surviving issue and heiress of* Godfrey Clarke, Esq. *of* Sutton Hall, *in the county of* Derby. *She departed this life in the city of* Exeter, *on the 24th of November,* 1801. *In her were united all the virtues which gave dignity to birth, or utility to fortune, her mind possessed an energy which doth not always mark the female character, her friendship was warm, and her charity was never restrained by individual convenience, her bosom was the seat of those energies which give activity to virtue. Possessed of superior talents and unimpeached honour, she never pursued frivolity with severity, or the loss of fame with triumph. Her latter years were marked by declining health, and her sufferings by patience. Her faith was fervent, her reward was sure.*

Adjoining is the monument (already described) of Bishop *Ross;* and next to this is one, almost similar to that of *Mrs. Clarke's,* excepting the angel, who is here represented full-faced; on this monument is the following epitaph:—

Lady Southampton.

Near this place are deposited the mortal remains of Laura, *wife of* George Ferdinand Lord Southampton, *and second daughter of the* Right Rev. Dr. Frederic Keppel, *sometime*

CHAP. VI. *Bishop of this Diocess. She departed this life at* Dawlish, *in this county, the 10th day of June, 1798, in the 34th year of her age.*

Farewell, dear shade! but let this marble tell
What heavenly worth in youth and beauty fell!
With ev'ry virtue blest, whate'er thy lot,
To charm a court, or dignify a cot;
In each relation—shone thy varied life
Of daughter, sister, mother, friend, and wife.
Seen with delight in fortune's golden ray,
Suffering remain'd to grace thy parting day:
When smiling lanyour spoke the candid soul,
And patience check'd the sigh affection stole.

Further on, in recesses in the wall of the choir, are two very ancient monuments, representing two knights, completely armed in coats of mail, their left hands holding shields, which are placed over their breasts, and their right grasping the hilts of their swords, which are girded to their bodies by strong belts; their helmets are placed under their heads; their legs are crossed, to denote their having been in some crusade to the Holy-land, and their feet are rested on lions: they appear to have been painted, and on their shields were depicted their armorial bearings, but they are now obliterated, together with the epitaphs.

Raleigh, of Raleigh.

One of these monuments (according to tradition) was erected to the memory of —— *Raleigh*, of *Raleigh*, maternal ancestor to the family of *Chichester;* and the other to the memory of *Humphrey de Bohun*, Earl of *Hereford* and *Essex*, and Constable of *England*. This Earl was father to *Margaret*, Countess of *Devon*, wife of *Hugh Courtenay*, the second Earl of *Devon* of that name. Over the statue was this inscription :—

Epitaphium D. Bohunni *illustrissimi*
Quondam Comitis Herefordensis.
Oh Bohunne *Comes! claro de sanguine nate!*
En! rapit vitæ stamina parca tuæ.
Dejicit illa viros illustri stemmate natos:
Insuper obscuros dejicit illa viros.
Aspicite humanam Bohunni *in imagine sortem?*
*Cunctos mors panda falce cruenta secat.**

* This Earl taking part with *Thomas*, Duke of *Lancaster*, in his opposition to the arbitrary proceedings of King *Edward* II. was slain at *Boroughbridge*, in *Yorkshire*, by a *Welchman*, who thrust a spear up his body as the Earl was passing over a bridge. This accident happened three years before the marriage of his daughter with the Earl of *Devon;* and as he died so far north it is very improbable that he should be buried in *Exeter*, where he had little or no connexions; but, according to *Weaver*, it was common in those days for

Almost over these ancient monuments is one of variegated marble, lately erected; it is small, but neatly executed, and records the following memento:—

Mrs. Ann Buller.

To the memory of Ann Buller, *widow of* William Buller, D. D. *late Bishop of* Exeter, *and daughter of* John Thomas, D. D. *late Bishop of* Winchester. *She died August the* 28*th*, 1800, *aged* 62.

Nearly opposite is a square marble tablet, fixed on the south wall, on which is as follows:—

William Norris, Esq

To the memory of William Norris, Esq. *of* Nonsuch, *in the county of* Wilts, *who died January the* 26*th*, 1794, *in the* 78*th year of his age.*

Against the same wall is a small but neat marble sarcophagus, enriched with branches of cypress; on the front is this inscription:—

William Corneck, Esq.

Sacred to the memory of William Corneck, Esq. *who died at* Starcross, *December the* 27*th*, 1802, *aged* 46. *Possessed of liberal sentiments, all those who knew him deplored his loss. His friendly disposition and exemplary life were singularly conspicuous, and corresponded with the courteous manner in which he fulfilled the duties of a husband and father. As a tribute due to his worth this monument was erected by his disconsolate widow.*

On the same wall are fixed two more small marble tablets, on the first of which is inscribed:—

Rev. George Nutcombe.

Rev. George Nutcombe, L. L. B. *born at* Exeter, *February the* 17*th*, 1769, *died there May the* 23*rd*, 1799.

Mrs. Hurford.

On the other: Louisa, *the wife of* Henry Hurford, Esq. *who died at* Exmouth, *November* 18*th*, 1803, *aged* 34 *years.*

On the east wall of the chapel, the north side of the library, is a new erected monument of statuary marble, beautifully executed; consisting of a white marble altar, supported by carved brackets, between which is a shield, on which are painted the arms of the defunct. On the altar is a female figure, in a reclining posture, weeping over an urn; on the back ground is an obelisk of black marble, shadowed on one side by a laurel tree; on the altar is this epitaph:—

Gen. Bruce.

To the memory of the Honourable Lieutenant-General Bruce, *uncle of the Earl of* Elgin *and* Kincardine, *Colonel of his Majesty's sixteenth regiment of foot, and member in the late parliament for* Marlborough, *and in the present for* Great Bedwin, *both in the county of* Wilts, *who departed this life*

persons of eminent rank to have monuments erected to their memory in different places, and probably this was erected by his daughter after her marriage; the inscription, which is now mostly obliterated, is not so ancient as the monument; being written by *Mr. Hoker*, about the reign of King *Edward* VI. as appears by the characters.

CHAP. VI. *December* 12*th*, 1797, *aged* 58. *He was hastening to the milder parts of* Devonshire, *in the hopes of restoring a constitution impaired by the oppressive climates of the two* Indies, *when death arrested his progress in this city, where he closed an honourable and illustrious life, worn out in the zealous service of his country, as a citizen and a soldier.*

Thomas Skynner, L. L. D.

Near the entrance of the south aisle is a small but neat marble monument, fixed against the choir wall, on which is the following inscription :—

Near this rest interred the remains
of Thomas Skynner, L. L. D.
successively Archdeacon of Totnes,
and Præcentor of this church,
whose honour and interests
he was always zealous to promote.
To the calls of charity or public spirit
his purse was never shut.
At every place of duty
his attendance was regular and exemplary,
even when ill health might have pleaded a dispensation.
To his houses a munificent benefactor:
The one he built from the ground,
and added to the ornaments and conveniences of the other:
At length, lamented by all,
he closed a valuable life
In his 61*st year, August the* 7*th,* 1789.

Near this is a monument of black and white marble, thus inscribed :—

Charles Hawtrey, M. A. Sub-Dean.

To the memory of Charles Hawtrey, M. A. *Sub-Dean and Canon-Residentiary of this Church, who died* 3*rd May,* 1770, *aged* 83. *As a husband, parent, master, and friend, he was affectionate, tender, kind, and true; extensive in his charity, but secret; a faithful minister of* Jesus Christ: *after a long and melancholy illness, borne with the fortitude of a christian, he was released from this world to reap the fruits of his piety in a better.*

Opposite is a plain mural monument of marble, bearing this inscription :—

Dorothy Bennet.

Underneath lyeth the body of Dorothy, *the wife of* Robert Bennet, *of* Halmston, *in this county, Gent. and daughter of* Edward Bennet, *of* Hexworthy, *in the county of* Cornwall, Esq. *who died the* 10*th day of October,* Anno Domini, 1736, *Ætat* 34.

William Weston, Esq.

On the south wall of the choir is a small plain monument, with the following :—

To the memory of William Weston, Esq. *youngest son of*

Stephen Weston, *Bishop of* Exeter, *many years Captain of an Indiaman, and at his death Registrar of this Diocess. This monument is dedicated by* Charles Weston, *Prebendary of* Durham, *&c. his nephew & exor. Obt.* 30*th June*, 1773, *Ætat* 62.

On a pillar, adjoining Bishop *Cotton's* monument, is one of white marble, consisting of an oval tablet, surrounded with laurel leaves; on the tablet is the bust of a priest, beautifully executed in relief: a mantle is suspended below with this epitaph:—

Edward Cotton, S. T. P.

EDVARDUS COTTON, S. T. P.
Thesaurarius et unus e Canonicis Residentariis, Filius Gulielmi Cotton, Præcentoris, Filii Gulielmi Episcopi Hujus Ecclesiæ. In Argumento & Genio subtilis; Doctrina, Pietate et Charitate angelicus, ad Damnum Ecclesiæ, et ad Dolorem Amicorum, Viz. omnium, obiit II. *Novembris, Anno Salutis* 1675.

Sir Peter Carew.

In the chapel, on the north side of the library, and against the north wall is a table monument of freestone, in the under part of which lies the statue of a knight, completely armed, and his legs crossed; on his shield are depicted the arms of the ancient family of the *Carews;* and on the wall, behind the statue, *Sir Peter Carew*, in characters, now almost obliterated. Over him, on the table part of the monument, lie two other figures, the one of an armed knight, and the other of a lady, representing *Sir Gawen Carew* and his wife. The inscription is very much mutilated, but this remnant remains: —

Sir Gawen Carew and Lady.

Walter Dowrich, *of* Dowrich, Esq. *married the only sister of this* Sir ——— ***** *knyght, under figured, elder brother to the* ——ter Carew, *knyght, was slayne.** On this monument are two dates, one cut in stone, 1589; the other in black paint, 1581.

On the east wall of this chapel is fixed a very clumsy monument of freestone; on the base is a coarse representation of a naked youth, sleeping, surrounded by flowers, with an hour-glass at his feet; above is a coffin, covered with a pall, from which angels are represented as in the act of conveying the soul of the defunct, shrouded in a cloud, to happiness: over the whole is this inscription:—

Mrs. Eliz. Barrett.

To the memory of Mrs. Elizabeth Barrett, *the wife of* John

* The inscription originally was thus:—Walter Dowrich, *of* Dowrich, Esq. *married the only sister of this* Sir Peter Carew, Knyght, *under figured, elder brother to the* Lord Carew, *of* Clopton; *which* Sir Peter Carew, Knyght, *was slayne in* Flanders.

CHAP. VI. Barrett, Gent. *whose body is interred at the east end of lady chappell, neere the high altar, under a marbell stone.*

For that the Elder Atride's *grief*
No Pensill can expresse to Life
For Iphigeniæs *luckless hap*
His Face a blacke veile must enwrap
And for the graces here enshrīd
Cannot by art's Quill be defined
Loe here a Veile of sable Herse
Insteed of Comment of all verse
Great Greifes as Graces are neere one
They silence both expression
Blēsd Soule whō Angels hāds yet strive to raise
Whē Angels Togūes faylter in thy due Praise.

Matthew Godwin. Adjoining this is a small monument of freestone, representing a young man in the act of praying; before him is an organ, and behind him several musical instruments; and over his head are cherubims appearing from the clouds: the inscription is partly obliterated; it was as follows:—

Matthei Godwin
Adoloscentis pii, mitis,
Ingeniosi, Musicæ Bacchalaurii:
Cathed. Cantuar: et Exon: Archimusici;
Æternæ Memoriæ posuit G. M. Fr:
Vixit Annos 17, *Menses* 5.
Hinc ad Cœlos migravit
12 *Januarii* 1586.

Dr. Bidgood. In this chapel is another monument, fixed against a pillar; it is of blue marble, partly gilt, and has the following inscription:

Memoriæ
Johannis Bidgood, M. D.
Hac Civitate III. Id. Martii nati
CIↃIↃCXXIII
Denato vero Idibus Januarii CIↃIↃCXC
S.
Quam si Artis Medicæ
Anglicaniq: Nominis
Decus et Ornamentum,
Si Hippocratem, Galenum,
Istiusve Sæculi Æsculapium
Dixeris
Verecunde dixeris Viator.

Upon a tablet below this epitaph is as follows:—

Hum: Bidgood *Consanguineus*

Et in totum Assem Hæres institutus
Gratitudinis æternæ
Hoc Testimonium venerabundus
Posuit.

Near the centre of the chapel is a grave stone, on which is the portrait of a priest, engraved and inlaid in brass, with a scroll issuing out of his mouth, bearing this inscription:— "*Dne Jhu scdm actu meu noli me judicari,*" and on the stone is this epitaph:—

William Langeton.

Hic Jacit Magister Willius Langeton *Consanguineus Magri* Edi Stafford *Exon Epi quond.*m *Canonicus hujus Eccliæ, Qui obiit* 29.° *Die Januarii Anno Dni millmo CCCC.° tertio decimo cujus Animæ ompe Deus. Amen.*

Sir John Gilbert,&c.

In the chapel, on the south side of the library, is an altar monument of freestone, without any inscription remaining; it was erected to the memory of *Sir John Gilbert, Knight,* and his wife, daughter of *Sir Richard Chudleigh,* of *Ashton,* their effigies are represented lying at full length, side by side, upon a bed of state, over which is a canopy, supported by pillars; on the back are three shields, on the first of which are the arms of *Gilbert,* on the second *Gilbert* and *Chudleigh's* impaled, and on the third *Chudleigh's* alone.*

Near this is a white marble monument, on which is a bust finely executed; underneath is this short epitaph:—

Edmund Davie.

In
Memoriam Edmundi Davie,
Qui Obiit 22 *Januarii:*
1692.

Against the south wall is a mausoleum, consisting of a lofty plinth of freestone, on which is a very large white marble pedestal, supporting two busts, the one of a priest, in his gown and band, the other of a lady in a loose dress; also an angel holding a medallion, on which is a profile bust of a young woman, in basso relievo, around it is this inscription:—

"*Mearum, heu! Dulce Decus, Columque Rerum.*"

The back part of the monument is of black marble, over which is a pediment, and under the pediment are three shields, charged with painted armorial bearings; on the pedestal is this inscription:—

Hic placide in Christo dormit
Martha Fursman:

* This *Sir John Gilbert* was knighted by Queen *Elizabeth,* in 1570; and was Sheriff of Devon in 1574.

CHAP. VI.

Quæ Patre orta Gasparo Radcliffe de Franklyn *Arm.ro*
Matre autem Iana Filia Salamonis Andrew de Lyme-Regis
Utrisq: Natalibus Generosa;
Nata est 15 *Die Mensis Maii A. D.* 1688:
Sub benignis autem penetralibus Materteræ suæ carissiimæ
Marthæ, Henrici Manaton *Arm.ri Uxoris et Viduæ pientissimæ*
E Parvula enutrita est: et amata multum:
Hæres tandem ex asse ab Improle instituta
Chancellor Fursman. *Viro Reverendo* Johanni Fursman *Clerico, A. M.*
18 *Mail A. D.* 1721, *nuptum data est:*
Et summo decore omnes Matronæ Partes sustinebat:
Pia, Proba, Casta, Verecunda, Recti Tenax, intemerata fide & honore
In sodalium Consuetudine et Colloquiis
Non morose silens; nec muliebriter garrula:
Erat enim Illi lentus Risus, sermo rarus, Censura nulla.
Formæ porro Gratiæ et Dignitati Animam adjungebat candidem et sinceram
Ingenium Mite & Benevolum;
Prudentiam rerum agendarum scientem;
Et verendam quandam morum Gravitatem;
Nihil leve, nihil indecorum, nihil se indignum tolerantem.
Hic virtutibus exercitata
Proh dolor! Affectu convulsivo subito correpta,
4 *Die Mensis Junii A. D.* 1727, *Gravida e vivis excessit!*
Et triste sui Desiderium reliquit
Pauperibus, Amicis, Cognatis, Marito, et Filiæ unicæ,
Martha Fursman
Quæ 2 *Septr.is A. D.* 1723.° *Nata*
Virtutum Matris et Bonorum Hæres,
Variolis, cheu Genere maxime pestiferis! quam in feliciter! lecto affixa,
Morbum adgravascentem sensit non timuit
Et ingruentem Mortem Animo pertulit.
Forti, Erecto, et minime Pertubato;
Quali Innocentem quali Christianam decuit:
Et 23 *die Oct. A. D.* 1741, *Animan puram et incontaminatam Deo redidit;*
Uxori et Filia heu! nimis propere abreptis!
Hoc monumentum superstes posuit
Johannes Fursman *Eccl.æ Cathed.is Exon Cancellarius;*
Et cum Illarum Cineribus suos etiam admisceri cupit;
Et una cum Dilectis Cælestem ad Gloriam feliciter resurgat,
*Nunquam iterum Disjungendus.**

* In this chapel is a female skeleton, in a wooden box, which is shewn to the vulgar as that of a woman that was executed for the murder of her bastard child; how it came to be placed here we can get no information; but probably it was the property of *Dr. Vilvaine*, and removed to the church with his library.

On the centre of the pediment is an urn of white marble, which during *Mr. Fursman's* lifetime occupied the place where his bust now stands; but at his decease it was removed to its present situation.

A LIST OF

THE PRESENT DIGNITARIES, CHAPTER,

AND

OTHER MEMBERS,

OF THIS ANCIENT AND VENERABLE FABRIC.

THE BISHOPRICK. *The Lord Bishop.* JOHN FISHER, L.L.D. elected 1803.

VALUE.—First fruits, on the King's books, £500. Yearly tenths, £50. Estimated rental, about £2000.

THE DEANRY. CHARLES TALBOT, B. D. 1803.

VALUE.—Endowed with the great tythes and patronage of *Colyton Rawleigh, Bishop's Tawton, Braunton, Lankey,* and *Swimbridge.* First fruits, in the King's books, £158. Yearly tenths, £15 16*s.* The King Patron.

DEAN AND CHAPTER, AS A BODY.

VALUE.—First fruits, £1132 18*s.* 11½*d.* The Dean and Chapter were returned by the Commissioners, temp. *Henry* VIII. to be worth, in temporal possessions, the clear annual sum of £1179 12*s.* 11*d.*

COLLEGE OF VICARS CHORAL.

VALUE.—First fruits, £205. Yearly tenths, £20 10*s.*

PRECENTOR. GEORGE GORDON, A. M. PREB. CANON, and PRECENTOR, 1789.

VALUE.—Endowed with the great tythes of *Paignton* and *Chudleigh,* in the King's books, £99 13*s.* 4*d.* Yearly tenths, £9 19*s.* 4*d.*

CHANCELLOR. NUTCOMBE NUTCOMBE, L. L. B. PREB. 1755, CHANC. of the CHURCH, and CANON, 1757.

VALUE.—Endowed with the great tythes of *Stoke Gabriel,* in the county of *Devon,* and *Newlyn,* in *Cornwall,* in the King's books, £99. Yearly tenths, £5 18*s.*

ARCHDEACON OF EXETER. THE BISHOP.
PREB. TREASURER, and CANON, 1803.

VALUE.—The Treasurership is endowed with the great tythes of *Probus, in Cornwall,* with several other estates, in the King's books, £32 17*s.* 3½*d.* Yearly tenths, £3 5*s.* 8¼*d.* Archdeaconry of *Exeter,* King's books, £60 15*s.* 10*d.* Yearly tenths, £4 18*s.* 0*d.*

ARCHDEACON OF CORNWALL. GEORGE MOORE, A. M.
PREB. 1769. CANON, 1775. A. D. 1788.

VALUE.—The King's books, £50 6*s.* 5¼*d.* Yearly tenths, £5 0*s.* 7½*d.*

ARCHDEACON OF TOTNES. RALPH BARNES, A. M.
PREB. 1769. CANON, 1772. A. D. 1775.
CHANC. DIOCESS, 1794.

The Archdeaconry is rated, in the King's books, £37 19*s.* 7*d.* Yearly tenths, £3 15*s.* 11½*d.*

ARCHDEACON OF BARNSTAPLE. JONATHAN PARKER FISHER, B. D. A. D. 1805.

The Archdeaconry is endowed with the impropriation of *Lynton* and *Countisbury,* King's books, £49. Yearly tenths, £4 18*s.*

SUB-DEAN. JOHN STURGES, L. L. D. SUB-DEAN, 1796.

VALUE.—Endowed with the great tythes of *Egloshaile,* in *Cornwall,* King's books, £22 10*s.* Yearly tenths, £2 5*s.*

FIRST CANON. THOMAS HEBERDEN, B. D. 1778.

SECOND CANON. JOHN FRANCIS HOWELL, A. M. 1794.

THIRD CANON. JOSEPH MARTIN, A. M. 1796.

Twenty-four Prebendaries.—King's books, £4 each; tenth of each, 8*s.* The annual income is now augmented to £20 each.

JAMES CARRINGTON, L. L. B. .... 1775.
JOHN GANDY, A. M. ..... 1777.
RICHARD MILLES, A. M. ..... 1778.
JOHN SWETE, A. M. .. .. 1781.
WILLIAM CARPENTER, D. D. .... 1785.
Sir H. TRELAWNEY, BART. A. M. 1789.
WALTER KITSON, A. B. ..... 1796.
GILBERT BURRINGTON, A. M..... 1798.
EDWARD HONEYWOOD, L. L. D. 1799.
EDMUND GILBERT, A. M. ..... 1800.
JOHN ROBERT HALL, A. M. .... 1802.
CHARLES DAVIE, A. M. ..... 1803.
WILLIAM OXNAM, A. M. ..... 1803.
WILLIAM SHORT, A. M. ..... 1805.
PHILIP FISHER, D. D. ..... 1805.

OLD BRIDEWELL GATE HOUSE.

LECTURERS.

WILLIAM STABBACK, A. B. ..... 1799.
JOHN BRADFORD, A. B. ..... 1804.

CUSTOS AND COLLEGE OF VICARS.

JAMES NEWCOMBE, A. B. Sub-Treasurer and Dean's Vicar .... 1758.
RICHARD EASTCOTT, S. C. L. .... 1775.
GEORGE LONG, A. B. ..... 1775.
EDWARD CHAVE, A. M. Custos. .. 1799.

Having finished a description of the Cathedral, I shall proceed to give some account of those places most worthy of notice in the *Close* of *St. Peter*, which is extra-parochial, and is so denominated from its having been separated from the city by walls and gates. The walls are now demolished, and houses built on their sites; but the gates are still remaining.

The principal gate is now called the *Broad-gate*, anciently *St. Michael's*, from its having the statue of that Archangel, overcoming *Satan*, placed in the interior front; this embellishment is now much mutilated. In the vaulting of this gate is displayed elegant tracery. *St. Martin's-gate* appears formerly to have been ornamented with tracery; a small part now remains. *Little Stile* is not void of ornaments. The other three gates at present have a mean appearance, and deserve no particular attention, except for their antiquity.

About the year 1750 another passage was made into the *Close*, through the city wall, which makes a convenient avenue into *Southernhay*, and is termed the *New Cut*.

Within the inclosure is the Bishop's Palace, and residentiary houses for the Dean, Chanter, Canons, &c. That part which is now termed the Church-yard was anciently the general Cemetery; and though it has been disused for that purpose upwards of two centuries, human bones of the ancient Citizens are still discovered in great numbers whenever there is an occasion for digging.

This yard was first railed round at the expence of the Chamber, who granted one hundred trees from *Duryard Wood* for that purpose, in the year 1657. It has of late years been greatly improved, and railed out in separate divisions, well

CHAP. VI. gravelled and planted with elms in various rows, forming several pleasant and shady walks.*

Among the late improvements one in particular claims observation, which is the judicious removal of the Treasurer's-house; this extended from the north tower quite across the church-yard, and entirely intercepted the view of the Cathedral, from the north transept, eastward; by the removal a pleasing opening was made, by which the whole northern side was presented to the view, and which now forms a noble perspective of ancient architecture. The part which was formerly the garden belonging to the Treasury now forms a fine grass plat, planted round with evergreens, and is separated from the ancient part of the Church-yard by iron palisades.

The south side of the Cathedral is so crowded with contiguous buildings that no near view can be taken but from the Bishop's gardens. On this side is the Chapter-house, a large building founded by Bishop *Lacey*, and finished in 1456 by Bishop *Nevill*.

The inside of this edifice was embellished with a great number of statues, as appears by the niches still remaining; but they fell a prey to the puritanical superstition in the grand Rebellion, when it was used as a stable for soldiers' horses: the outside is so closely surrounded by the Cloisters and other buildings that scarce any part is seen but the battlements.

Chapter House.

In front of the Chapter-house are the Cloisters, forming a small square area, round which are houses for the Sub-Chanter, Secondaries, Vergers, &c. and a music-school, in which is a small organ, for the instruction of the young choristers. This area was also a burying-place, but has not been used for many years; several of the grave-stones are still remaining; it is planted with rows of elm trees; and through it is the passage by the south door into the church. These Cloisters, an assemblage of ancient and modern architecture, appear to have been formerly more extensive. Near the west front of the Cathedral is the College of Choral-Vicars;† consisting of four Priests and eight Lay-Brothers, who have each of them a convenient house; they formerly lived in common together, for which purpose they had a common kitchen and hall, both of which are now remaining; the kitchen is at this time a public-house, called the College Kitchen; the hall is large and commodious, neatly wainscoted, and on the panels are the arms and portraits of

* The whole of the yard was new gravelled, at the expence of the Chapter, in the year 1802.

† This College was formerly termed the *Calender-hay*; and the Gate-house, with some other parts of the building, was re-built by *John Ryse*, Treasurer of the Church, in the year 1529.

their benefactors; on one side of this hall is a music gallery. The Gate-house of the College is a strong stone building, in the front of which are the arms of *England* and *France*, quarterly; and under them are the arms of Bishop *Oldham*, supported by two angels. Adjoining to this Gate-house is an ancient building in which the Registrar's-Office for the Archdeaconry of *Exeter* is held.

Bishop's Palace.

The Bishop's Palace adjoins the south east part of the Cathedral; and though not a regular is a very extensive and commodious house; it has a neat chapel, and several elegant apartments, in one of which is an ancient and curious chimney-piece, embellished with carving, in the gothic style; it was erected by Bishop *Courtenay*, as appears by his arms still remaining upon it. The gardens are large, containing upwards of two acres, bordered on one side by the city walls, on which is a terrace, commanding a pleasant view of the neighbouring country. On this terrace his present Majesty, with his royal consort and daughters (in their late visit to this city) walked for some time, and greatly admired the beauties of the surrounding scene.* The palace and gardens have been greatly improved of late years, particularly by Bishop *Keppel*, who intended to have done much more if death had not prevented him. There is a private covered passage from the Palace to the Church, for the convenience of the Bishop and his family.

The Deanry.

The Deanry (which was originally a house of nuns, of the order of *St. Augustine)* adjoins the College; it was greatly ruinated during the civil wars, being set out to mean tenants; but on the appointment of *Dr. George Carey* to the Deanry, A. D. 1663, he caused it to be thoroughly repaired and beautified; and it has since been further improved by succeeding Deans, particularly by Dean (afterwards Bishop) *Buller*, in such a manner as to render it not unworthy of the habitation of Princes. The gardens are not extensive, but are well laid out and planted with trees: here his Majesty, during his short stay, enjoyed his usual practice of very early and salutary walking.

The Chantry.

The Chantry is a very ancient and roomy house, entirely surrounded by other buildings, and no part of it is to be seen except the entrance, which has a modern frontispiece.

Chancellor's and other houses.

The Chancellor's house stands eastward of the Cathedral; it is a neat brick building, with its front to a pleasant garden that leads to the city wall, on which is a terrace: this house was re-built about the year 1740, by the *Rev. Chancellor Fursman.* The other residentiary houses (several of which have been re-built or modernised) are roomy and convenient, and have pleasant gardens.

* The perspective beauties of this walk are greatly destroyed by the new buildings erected on *Southernhay*.

CHAP. VI.

Mol's Coffee house.

Within the Close are many genteel private houses; and at the upper end is a very ancient coffee-house, named *Mol's*,* from its proprietor, an *Italian* of that name; it is regularly supplied with newspapers and other periodical publications, and is frequented by gentlemen of the first distinction in the city and country.

St. Catharine'sAlms-house.

Adjoining *St. Catharine's* (anciently *Berkly)* gate is an alms-house for twelve poor women, under the patronage of the Dean and Chapter; these houses were founded by *John Stevens, D. D.* Canon Residentiary of the Cathedral, who endowed them with seventeen shillings and four-pence yearly;† but this small stipend is increased by the bounty of the Chapter: there is a small chapel belonging to this house, which has a bell still remaining.‡ There have been several other benefactions to these houses, viz: the *Rev. William Herne,* Rector of *St. Petrock's* in this city, by his last will and testament, dated the 10th of April, fourth of *Elizabeth,* A. D. 1562, gave to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of *Exeter,* the sum of £168 5*s.* in consideration of their paying weekly to the poor of this house thirteen-pence; and for other purposes, as will be hereafter mentioned. *Robert Hall, D. D.* Treasurer of the Cathedral, by his last will and testament, dated 25th of April, 1667, bequeathed the sum of £10 per annum, to be paid quarterly in equal portions. *Edward Young, D. D.* sometime Dean of this Cathedral, by his last will and testament, dated the 6th of June, 1663, bequeathed the sum of £250, to be paid, at farthest, within two years after his death, towards the purchasing of lands in fee-simple, or a rent charge, to the amount of £12 per annum; of which forty shillings a year he directed (by his said will) should be paid to the poor of *St. Catharine's* alms-house; forty shillings to the choristers of the Cathedral; and twenty shillings a year to the prisoners in the Goal, near

Benefactors to this Alms-house.

* *Anthony Wood,* in his *Athen. Oxon.* says that the first coffee-house opened in *Oxford* was in the year 1656, by a Jew, named *Cirques Jobson,* who afterwards removed to *London,* and opened one in *Southampton Buildings.* From the accounts that can be gathered *Mol's* was established prior to this, which is very probable, as till very lately there was a pediment over the doorway on which was carved the arms of Queen *Elizabeth,* with the initials E. R. and the date 1596.

† This donation of 17*s.* 4*d.* per ann. was confirmed by a Decree of Chancery, in Trinity term, the 6th of July, 1633, the ninth of *Charles* I.

‡ This alms-house, with the Country-house public-house adjoining, are the remains of a Benedictine Nunnery, but by whom founded or when dissolved is not mentioned in the *Notitia* of *Mr. Tanner.* There is still great part of this ancient structure remaining, particularly the chapel, which is almost entire, with its vaulted roof, and underneath is a stone crypte; this chapel has long been desecrated, and has of late years been occupied as a carpenter's workshop.

the Castle; to be distributed by the Dean of *Exeter* (for the time being) annually, on the 29th of May, in commemoration of the happy restoration of monarchy on that day.

Dr. Hall was also a great benefactor to the Cathedral and Precinct of *St. Peter*, as appears by an extract from his will: first, he bequeathed in trust to the Dean and Chapter £200, to be paid within six months after his decease, the interest whereof to be appropriated for ever to the binding forth apprentices such poor children, born within the said Close, as the Dean and Chapter should approve of. Secondly, he gave £150 towards purchasing a new set of hangings for the further embellishment of the Choir of the Cathedral Church. Thirdly, he bequeathed sixty folio and forty quarto volumes of books, to be selected from his library in *Exeter* and *Clisthydon*, by and at the choice of the then Dean and Chapter; which books were to be kept chained in the library of the Cathedral, and were not to be lent or removed without sufficient security for the speedy returning of the same given to the Treasurer of the said Church for the time being. Fourthly, he gave to the said Church his double silver gilt bason and ewer of Nuremberg work, to be made use of for the adorning the communion table, in the choir, and not to be exposed to any private use or employment whatever. Besides these he also left the following benefactions: to the poor of *Exeter* twenty pounds; to the two Vergers of the Cathedral five pounds each; to the Bell toller fifty shillings; to fifty decayed tradesmen of the said city one pound each; and to the Dean and Chapter ten pounds to purchase rings, as a small testimony of his affection for them.

Number of inhabitants in the Close

In the Close or Precinct of *St. Peter*, according to the late returns made by order of government, in the year 1800, there were one hundred and eight houses, inhabited by one hundred and fourteen families, amounting to five hundred and seventy-one inhabitants; at the same time there were six houses uninhabited in the said Precinct.

I shall next proceed to the parochial description, and begin with that of *St. Martin's*, which is contiguous to *St. Peter's Close*, and in the same ward or quarter of the city.

St. Martin.

This Church, which as well as the parish is but small, is dedicated to *Martin*, Bishop of *Tours*, in *France*; there is no account of the time of its first erection; but it is probable that it was after the *Norman* conquest, from its being dedicated to a *Gallic* saint. The earliest account we have of it is in the year 1222, when the parishes in this city were regulated. The Church, as before observed, is small, consisting of a nave and small chancel, with a recess under the tower, forming a small aisle: the chancel is separated from the nave by a handsome gothic screen; the pulpit (which has been newly erected) is a

CHAP. VI. specimen of neat workmanship, and the Church is well seated, and kept in good repair; the tower is pretty lofty, and surmounted with a gilt vane; it contains one bell, of a deep note, and which is easily distinguished by its sound from every other bell in the city; the tower seems to have been erected since the period above mentioned, as an addendum to the church, its site not being within the bounds of the parish, but in the Precinct of the Close; the parishioners paying a small annual acknowledgment to the Dean and Chapter, of four-pence, for its standing on their land. The monuments and inscriptions within the church are as follow:—

On the south side, near the altar, is a small neat monument, to the memory of *William Holwell, M. D.* who died the 23rd of June, 1707, with others of his family.

On the north side is a large heavy monument, rudely executed, to the memory of *William Hooper*, Merchant, of this city, who died the 3rd of December, 1715. He was the founder of several charities in this city.

Behind this Church are the remains of a small Chapel, now converted into a Malt-house. This rectory is in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, valued in the King's books at £8 14*s.* 9½*d.*; certified value £15; Rector, the *Rev. James Carrington.*

Hotel. The only house worthy notice in this parish is the *Hotel*, a large and commodious Inn, with elegant apartments and accommodation for people of the first quality, with a large assembly-room, in which are held the assize balls, concerts, and winter assemblies of the most distinguished persons of the city and county: in the front is a neat coffee-room. The situation of the Hotel is very pleasant, as it opens to the parade, and commands a noble view of the Cathedral.

Adjoining the Hotel is the *Exeter Bank*, the oldest established Banking-house in this city, under the firm of *Sir John Duntze, Bart. Sanders, Hamilton, & Co.*

At the late return of the inhabitants of this city there were forty-five inhabited and five uninhabited houses in this parish, in which were resident fifty one families, consisting of one hundred and forty-nine males, and one hundred and sixty-one females; in the whole three hundred and ten inhabitants.

St. Pancras. As the parish of *St. Pancras* has been held for many years in commendam with the parish of *St. Martin* it will be proper (though it is not in the same ward) to continue the description with an account of that Church, &c.

It is dedicated to *Pancrasius*, a British saint, and bears evident marks of great antiquity; but when or by whom built we have no account. It is a very small but plain building, forty-six feet six inches in length, and sixteen feet in breadth; it is not decorated with any of those grotesque ornaments so

common among our *Saxon* ancestors in their ecclesiastical buildings; or with armorial shields, so much used by the *Normans*. The interior is dark and gloomy, consisting of a nave and chancel; the latter only is seated; the pulpit and font are very old. As no use is now made of this Church, excepting as a Cemetery for a few families, it is consequently very much neglected, and may soon be desecrated.

It has no campanile; its only bell is hung in a turreted arch, at the west end of the Church; it is a Rectory, in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, and valued in the King's Books at £4 13*s*. 4*d*. per annum; certified value £5.

The Guildhall.

In this parish is the Guildhall, an ancient structure, the front of which projects into the High-street, and is a jumble of ancient and modern architecture, supported by moorstone columns.

Over the vestibule is a capacious room, in which the Chamber and principal Citizens, on occasional events, enjoy their convivial meetings, and drink, in bumpers of wine, health and prosperity to the King, Royal Family, &c. In this room the Grand Jury hold their Inquests, at the Assizes, Quarter Sessions, &c. Over this are other apartments, in which, some years since, was a quantity of ancient armour, with a number of matchlock-muskets, &c.; but these rooms serve now as repositories for the plans of the estates, writings, &c. belonging to the Chamber, and which are regulated with great order.

From the balustraded leads there is a fine prospect; and on the summit of all is a turret, in which is a bell, to give notice of the opening the Mayor's court, and to alarm the Citizens in cases of fire, &c.

Behind the Grand Jury room is the Council Chamber, where the members of the Common Council hold their meetings, and deliberate together in private.

The Common Hall is spacious: at the upper end is the Court of Hustings, with elevated seats for the Mayor, Justices, &c. and galleries for the Grand and Petty Juries. The arched roof is lofty, with a single span, after the manner of *Westminster Hall*, and supported by grotesque figures of beasts, in lieu of brackets: from the centre hangs a large brass chandelier, over which is a ventilator.

On each side of the Hall is a wainscot press, carved and partly gilt; that on the right hand containing a fine whole length portrait of his late Majesty King *George* II. painted and presented to the Chamber by *Mr. Hudson*, a native of this city; the opposite press contains a similar portrait of the Princess *Henrietta Maria*, who was born in Bedford-house, in this city, daughter of King *Charles* I. painted by the celebrated *Vandyke*,

CHAP. VI. and a present to the city from her brother, *Charles* II. Over the Sheriff's seat is a fine whole length portrait of *John Tuckfield, Esq.* who for many years represented this city in parliament, whose upright conduct as a senator, and philanthropic disposition, justly merited the esteem of the Citizens. Opposite the hustings, against the wall of the Council Chamber, are three more elegant full length portraits, in superb gilt frames; the central one is that of *Sir Charles Pratt*, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, afterwards created Earl of *Cambden*, who immortalized his name by his final decision of the illegality of general warrants, which secured to the subject the blessings of liberty, and put a stop to the arbitrary proceedings of men in power; this picture was a present to the city by *John Rolle Walters, Esq.* one of its representatives in parliament. The portrait on the right hand of this is *General Monk*, afterwards Duke of *Albermarle*, who had so great a share in the restoration of monarchy, and of our present happy established government, both in Church and State, after it had been overthrown, by civil discord and designing men, for many years: this picture was painted by *Vandyke*. The other on the left is the portrait of *Benjamin Heath, Esq.* Barrister-at-Law, uncle of the present Judge *Heath*, and Town-Clerk of this city, who greatly exerted himself in procuring the repeal of the act of parliament for laying a very heavy impost on cider, as already related; in return for this the Chamber, out of gratitude to his merit, caused the painting to be placed here. Over these paintings is a projecting canopy, to which is affixed a large green curtain, which when drawn up forms a festoon of drapery, and has a pleasing effect; when let down it effectually covers and preserves them from the dust and damp air. The Hall is wainscoted round with carved mouldings and brackets, and in the cornices are regularly arranged a number of small shields, on which are painted the arms of the different incorporated trades, &c. Behind the Hall are two dark and gloomy prisons, termed the *Backgrate*, used for the confinement of offenders before their final examination and commitment to *South-gate;* over those cells is a large and capacious cistern, lined with lead, that will contain several hundred hogsheads of water, designed as a reservoir in case of accidental fires.

The ancient Guildhall. According to tradition the ancient *Prætorium* of this city was situated in *Waterbear-street*, where an ancient *Saxon* building was lately standing, and which, from its spaciousness, seemed to have been erected for some public purposes, but from the style of the architecture does not seem probable that it

was designed for a religious use. The origin of the present Guildhall was a Chapel, dedicated to *St. George;* but of the time when it was appropriated to its present use history is silent. The first mention we have of it is in the year 1330, in the Mayoralty of *Martin Lekenn*, when it was re-built, and probably about this period we may date its first appropriation for judicial purposes. In the year 1464 this structure becoming ruinous it was again re-built; and in the year 1484 the front part and Council Chamber were re-built; in 1556 the Council Chamber was wainscoted; in 1576 the Court of Hustings was newly erected, with elevated seats for the Mayor, Justices, &c.; and two years after the whole was new ceiled and glazed, and the pump erected in the front; in the year 1593 the whole of the front was re-built; some few years since the roof was plastered withinside; and in 1802 the Hustings were greatly improved, and a new gallery built, for the better accommodation of the Petty Jury.

In this small parish are thirty-five houses, containing fifty-three families, numbering ninety-three males and one hundred and thirty-eight females; in the whole two hundred and thirty-one.

The next parish to *St. Martin's* is *St. Stephen's*, dedicated to the protomartyr. The Church is a handsome gothic building, consisting of a nave, one aisle, a chancel, and long gallery; it is light, roomy, well seated, and kept in good repair. The chancel is erected on an arch, which crosses the adjoining lane, called *St. Stephen's Bow;* consequently it is above the floor of the Church, and is ascended by a flight of steps. The altar-piece is very neat, and from its elevated situation has a pleasing effect. At the west end is a lofty tower, in which are three small bells. The time of erecting the old church is not recorded, but that it was built before the Conquest is evident from its being given by the *Norman* conqueror to *William Warlewest*, Bishop of this Diocess; and it has been held ever since as a Barony, by the succeeding Bishops. In 1222 it is mentioned as one of the regulated parishes of this city. St. Stephen.

The ancient Church becoming ruinous, the present edifice was raised about the year 1665; the expences of which were partly defrayed by donations, and partly by subscriptions from the parishioners. In the Church are the following monuments:—

On the north wall is a large marble monument to the memory of *Thomas Bolithoe, Esq.* and several of his family. He died in 1753.

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On the south wall is one to the memory of *Mr. Georye Potter*, Merchant, and Alderman of this city, and a great benefactor towards the building of the Church. He died in 1667.

There is another to the memory of *James Rodd, Esq.* of Bedford-house, who died in 1678.

The living is valued in the King's books at £7 17*s.* 3½*d.*; certified value £26. The present Rector is the *Rev. James Simmons.*

An annual rent is paid to the Prince of *Wales* for the encroachment of the Bow over the street.

The following donations have at different times been given to this Church and parish:—

Thomas Bridyman, Gent. of this city, son of *Arthur Bridyman*, sometime Registrar of the Archdeaconry of *Exeter*, among other charities, bequeathed £30 for the better support of this Church.

Lady *Anne Clifford*, Countess Dowager of *Pembroke, Dorset*, and *Montgomery*, Baroness *Clifford*, of *Westmoreland*, Lady of the Manor of *Skipton*, in *Craven*, and only daughter and heiress of the *Right Hon. George*, Earl of *Cumberland*, by her deed indented, dated the 30th day of December, sixth *Charles* II. A. D. 1654, in memory of her mother, the Lady *Margaret Russell*, Countess Dowager of *Cumberland*, who was the youngest daughter of the Right Hon. *Francis Russell*, the second Earl of *Bedford* of that family, born in Bedford-house, in this city, and baptized in this Church, July the 9th, 1566, did grant and enfeoff the Right Hon. *William Russell*, Earl of *Bedford*, the then Mayor of *Exeter*, and eleven persons more, as feoffees, with one close of land, meadow, or pasture, with the appurtenances, lying in the parish of *St. Sidwell*, near *St. Ann's Chapel*, containing by estimation four acres and half, and then of the yearly value of twelve pounds, or thereabouts, to have and to hold the said close of land, with the appurtenances, unto the said feoffees, their heirs and assigns for ever; upon special trust and confidence, nevertheless, that the sum of ten pounds yearly out of the same should be for ever raised and disposed of for the putting out and placing (*in the way of an apprentice, in some honest trade or course of living*) yearly, to the world's end, one poor child, boy or girl, born and residing within the said parish of *St. Stephen*, (being such a one as shall be found to be destitute of other means of worldly preferment, and to stand most in need of a charitable provision) to be approved by the said Countess Dowager during her life, and after her decease by the Right Hon. *William*,

Earl of *Bedford*, and his heirs, and the Mayor of the said city, for the time being, and his successors, upon the recommendation of the Minister and Churchwardens of the parish, for the time being, and their successors: and upon further trust, that when eight of the trustees shall be dead, the surviving trustees shall convey over the premises to ten other persons of good worth and reputation, inhabiting within *Devon* and *Exeter*, to be nominated by the said Countess and her heirs for ever; to the end that the good intentions of the said Countess may be observed and performed, touching this said pious and charitable use, for ever.*

George Potter, *Esq.* late Alderman of this city, by his last will and testament, dated the 4th of March, 1662, devised as follows: whereas, *Thomas Bridgman*, *Gent.* my near kinsman, gave the sum of one hundred marks, lawful money of *England*, to be laid out and bestowed in a monument, and for the reparation of *St. Stephen's* Church, in the said city; in lieu thereof I give towards the new building of *St. Stephen's* Church aforesaid the sum of five hundred pounds, of like lawful money, to be paid within the space of three years after my decease, as the said work shall be set onward and be perfected. Also I give my dwelling-house, wherein *Mr. Lee* now resides, in this city aforesaid, for a perpetual habitation for the incumbent of *St. Stephen's* Church aforesaid, successively from one to another, and in the vacancy to remain in the hands of the Churchwardens, for the time being, and they to be accountable to the next succeeding Minister for the proceeds and profits which shall out of the same arise. †

John King, some time a Merchant in *Exeter*, by his last will, &c. (among other benefactions to this city) dated the 1st day of June, 1672, bequeathed to the Churchwardens of the parish of *St. Stephen*, in *Exon*, and their successors,

* This charitable donation is now invested in the power of the parish Feoffees, and the field is at present held by lease by *Mr. Carter*, Upholsterer, of the said parish, at more than double its former rent; yet notwithstanding the great enhancement of the value of the land, and the care of the present Trustees, by the great advances in the taxes, poors'-rate, and tithes, the income is not sufficient to fulfil the pious intention of the donor. The Trustees have lately caused a number of large elms, which were growing in the hedges surrounding this field, to be felled and sold, which produced a considerable sum of money; this they intend to apply to the use of the charity, and to plant a number of others in their room.

† This house is situated in *King's Alley*, is very small, and unfit for a genteel residence, therefore it is never occupied by the Minister, but by the parish Clerk, who rents it of him.

CHAP. VI. the sum of £125, to be lent on good security, or laid out in the purchase of lands or lease, and the profits and increase thereof, by them and their successors, for ever hereafter, to be employed and disposed of in manner following: that is to say, the sum of ten shillings to be paid to the Vicar of the said parish, for the time being, for such preparation sermon by him to be preached in the said Church of *St. Stephen*, in order to the sacrament, every last Saturday in the month, as is now usually at *Plymouth*, and for thirteen months in the year, and in default of the said Vicar not preaching at any time or times hereafter on such Saturday, my will and meaning is that the said sum of ten shillings shall be paid unto any other lawfully authorized Minister, which the said Vicar, for the time being, or the parishioners of the said parish shall appoint, or procure to preach such sermon or sermons, for each sermon which such other Minister shall preach as aforesaid; and the overplus of the profits of the same sum of £125, at six per cent. per annum, being twenty shillings, my will is that twelve shillings thereof shall yearly be paid to the Clerk of the said parish, and the eight shillings residue to the Sexton, for the time being, for their attendance on the said Vicar or Minister to preach as aforesaid; my farther meaning is that when or as often as there shall be default or neglect in preaching, in any month hereafter, in such manner before expressed, the said sum of ten shillings, for every neglect or default, shall be given and bestowed on the poor of the said parish, or to any good use which the Church-wardens or any other substantial householders and parishioners shall think fit and direct for the use of the said parish.

On the late survey there were in this parish sixty-one inhabited and two uninhabited houses, containing seventy-four families, numbering one hundred and eighty-four males and two hundred and ninety-seven females, in all four hundred and eighty-one inhabitants.

Bedford Precinct. Adjoining the parish of *St. Stephen* is the extra-parochial Precinct of *Bedford*, occupying all the land formerly belonging to the Monastery of Benedictine or Black Monks, which was founded by one of the Abbots of *Tavistock*, to which it was a a cell. It was a large and sumptuous building, and had elegant apartments for the accommodation of the lordly Abbots of *Tavistock*, whenever they came to *Exeter:* there was also a fine Church and large Cemetery. At the dissolution it was granted (together with the Abbey of *Tavistock*) to *John Lord Russell*, afterwards created Earl of *Bedford;* and from the Earls and Dukes often residing here it received the name of *Bedford-house;* but latterly it was very much neglected by that family, and divided into several tenements. In the year 1780 the

ancient house, with great part of the gardens, were let on a building lease to *Mr. Robert Stribling*, an eminent builder, of *Exeter*, who demolished the old remains, and erected a handsome uniform crescent,* consisting of fourteen genteel houses. In the front is a large circular area, surrounded with iron rails, within which is a circular gravel walk, bordering a level grass plat, which is planted irregularly with trees. In the centre of the building is placed an ancient tablet, (taken from the front of the old house) on which is carved, in relief, the armorial bearings of the noble house of *Russell*, quartered with several coats of arms, supported by two angels. Behind the houses is a mew, consisting of stables and coach-houses; every house having a passage through the garden.

On the erection of the crescent a fine avenue was made to it, with the Chamber's consent, by taking down part of the city walls, and making a new road across the *Fosse* and *Southernhay*.

The Theatre.

On the right hand of this road, just without the walls, (not in the Precinct of *Bedford*, but in the parish of *St. David*) was erected, some few years since, a neat and convenient Theatre, of brick, with stone copings: in the front is a colonade, supported by Tuscan columns, and over the colonade is a stone escutcheon, on which are carved, in relievo, the city arms.

In this precinct are seventeen houses, inhabited by seventeen families, consisting of forty-five males and seventy-one females, in all one hundred and sixteen inhabitants.

Allhallows, Goldsmith-street.

To the parish of *St. Stephen* is annexed that of *Allhallows, Goldsmith-street*, which is dedicated to all the saints. The Church is small and gloomy; and not being made use of is consequently dirty, and in bad repair within: it consists of a nave, which extends itself under the tower, forty-one feet in length, and twenty in breadth; and a small chancel, fifteen feet by twelve; it has no gallery; the tower is low, and has only one bell; the pulpit, font, and altar, are very ancient, and the whole Church bears the marks of great antiquity, but of the time of its erection we are left in darkness; the first mention that is made of it is in the year 1222, when it was regulated as one of the parish Churches of *Exeter;* but since the Reformation, the parish being very small, and private masses, &c. (that mint of papal superstition) abolished, the income is too small to maintain an incumbent: it is valued in the King's books at £6 4*s.* 7*d.* per annum, certified value £12; and the presentation

* According to the original plan fourteen more houses were to have been erected on the opposite side, which would have formed a complete circus; but this side is at present occupied by a few old buildings, stables, &c.

CHAP. VI. is in the gift of the Dean and Chapter. In the papal times there was an image of the blessed Virgin, before whom candles were kept perpetually burning; the expences of which were defrayed by an estate near *Duryard*, appropriated for that purpose: this image was much resorted to by the superstitious, and brought great profits to the Rector; it was destroyed at the Reformation. In this Church the only monumental inscriptions worth preserving are the following:—

On the left hand, against the wall of the chancel, is a monument of white marble, consisting of a square tablet, surrounded with festoons of flowers, and underneath are two human skulls, conjoined with bats' wings; on the top is a shield, on which are painted, in a lozenge, the lady's arms; the whole of the carving is executed in a masterly manner; and on the tablet is this inscription:—

Loveday, *the daughter of* Christopher Bellett, Esq. *(late of* Bochim, *in the county of* Cornwall) *by* Bridget, *the daughter of* William Pendarves, Esq. *(of* Roscrow, *in the said county) lyes buried near this place. She died in this city, the* 16*th day of September, A. D.* 1711, *of the small pox. A distemper so remarkably fatal to her family that no less than four of her sisters died of it in the months of February and March,* 1716, *in the boroughs of* Penryn *and* Fowey, *in* Cornwall *aforesaid.*

Adjoining this is a plain white marble oval tablet, and over it a shield, on which are painted the arms of *Hele* and *Bellett*, impaled; on the tablet is this inscription:—

Near this place lieth Bridget, *the wife of* Sampson Hele, *of this city, sister to* Loveday Bellett, &c. *as set forth in the adjoining monument, who also died of that fatal distemper, the small pox, the* 10*th June,* 1719.

On a plain tablet, against the north wall, is the following:—

Underneath lieth the body of Mr. Thomas Cornish, *who departed this life* 4*th August,* 1759, *aged* 47.*

On a flat stone, in the aisle, just below the chancel, is this epitaph:—

Here lieth the body of Thomas Westlake, Gent. *who departed this life the* 3*d day of Jan. A. D.* 1665. †

Zenas secundus nouerint universi suum
Nactus quietus est lite et tumultu fori
Obdormit intus ulla non excitandus tuba
Ni judicis supremi quam exaudiet hilarij

* This *Mr. Cornish* was a member of the Common Council of this city, and died in the year of his Sheriffalty.

† This gentleman was an ancestor of the present *Mr. Alderman Westlake.*

Vixit Maritus Genitor patronus dominus
Fidusq. amicus Conjugi natis Clientibus
Servis bonisq. omnibus vix flendus satis abi
Nunc lector et dehinc Causidicis magis fave.

Here also lieth the body of Mary Westlake, *relict of* Thomas Westlake, *who died the* 28*th August*, 1669.

Here with her husband lies a saint, wife, mother,
The world can hardly boast of such another;
Her knowledge 'bove her sex in things divine,
Was not unfruitful, but in grace did shine;
One month to her, birth, wedlock, death, did give,
Now she is gone in endlesse blisse to live.

Just above this, in the chancel, is another flat stone, bearing this inscription :—

Here lieth the body of Sarah Westlake, *ye daughter of* Thos. Westlake, *of this city*, Gent. *deceased, who departed this life the* 20*th day of October, A. D.* 1666.

Here lies the heiresse of her father's face,
Sage, with grave carriage and diviner grace,
The Muses' Vot'ry, whom kind eruell fate
Ravisht from us, and did to Heaven translate:
Such plants God from earth's nurs'ry doth remove,
Betimes to heavenly paradise above.

In this parish is the market for fish, oats, grain, potatoes, &c. This market-place was originally part of the Swan Tavern, and was erected, at the expence of the Chamber, about the year 1778; by which means a great nuisance was removed from the *High-street*, where before this period it was held; it is small but convenient; part of it is colonaded, and round two of the sides are small shops for the fishmongers, greengrocers, &c.; and the other is occupied by the Swan Inn and Tavern. At the corner of *Gandy's-lane* is the Mayoralty-house; it has no front in the street, but is large, commodious, and well furnished with plate, linen, and every other necessary accommodation for the public entertainments made by the Mayor and Chamber, and for the lodging of the Judges during their stay in this city, at the Assizes: the sword-bearer, with his family, always resides in and has the care of this house.

In this parish are fifty-one houses, inhabited by fifty-nine families, containing one hundred and twenty-nine male and two hundred and nine female inhabitants.

There is no table of benefactions in this Church, and the only one mentioned on record is that of *Sir John Ackland*, of *Columb-John*, in the county of *Devon*, *Knight*, who, by his

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last will, &c. dated the 14th of September, 1609, enfeoffed certain members of the Chamber with the Rectory and Sheaf of *Churchstow* and *Kingsbridge*, for certain charitable purposes therein mentioned, one of which was that sixpence weekly be for ever bestowed in bread, and given to the poor of this parish.

Saint Lawrence.

North-eastward of *St. Stephen's* is the parish of *St. Lawrence;* the Church consists of a nave, with one small aisle, and at the west end is a capacious gallery.* The altar, which is separated from the body of the Church by low balustrades, is a neat piece of painting, executed a few years since by *Mr. Eastment* of this city. This Church is a light gothic structure, well seated, is kept in good repair, and has sufficient room for the accommodation of the parishioners. The tower, in which is only one bell, is a clumsy ill-proportioned building, much too large for its height, without any spire or vane; and from its being finished at the summit with a coping wall without battlements has a very odd appearance.† Adjoining this tower is a porch, forming the principal entrance into the Church; over the front of the porch, in a gothic niche, is a small statue of Queen *Elizabeth;* this statue once decorated a Conduit, which heretofore stood in the middle of the street, from the remains of which this porch was erected. Behind the Church is a small cemetery, formerly a garden, the donation of a parishioner, for the purpose of interring, gratis, the bodies of poor parishioners. The date of the foundation of this Church, (which was once appropriated to *St. John's Hospital)* is not recorded, nor is there any account of it before the year 1222, when it is mentioned as one of the nineteen parochial Churches then in this city.‡

During the usurpation of *Oliver Cromwell* it was one of the thirteen parish Churches exposed to sale by the Parliament

* In the year 1803 another gallery was erected over the aisle, at the expence of the parishioners.

† The singularity of this tower is noted by the facetious *Mr. Andrew Brice*, in his *Mobiad*, where he relates the following humorous story:—A country boy, in company with his mother, happening to pass by this Church, and observing the tower mistook it for the chimney of the adjoining house, and exclaimed to his parent, "Mother, Mother, what a gurt Chimbley that little house has got."

‡ There were two Chapels in this parish; one in Trinity-lane, with almshouses, as appears from the following memorial:—*Sub Præsidio S. Petri*, Gulielmus Musgrave, M. D. S. S. *Trinitatis hanc Capellam vetustate collapsuram annis* 1694, *et* 1711, *restituit et auxit.* And *Bishop Lacie's* register mentions another Chapel, dedicated to *St. Bartholomew*, of which there are now no remains: but it may be remarked that on re-building the house belonging to *Mr. Taylor*, Cabinetmaker, an ancient building, with a vaulted roof remaining, was discovered, which plainly appeared of a religious construction, and probably was the remains of this ancient Chapel.

Commissioners, when it was purchased by a worthy parishioner, and given by him to the parish, and thus preserved from ruin.

It is a Rectory, in the gift of the crown; valued in the King's books at £10 7*s.* 4*d.* per annum; certified value £16.

The monuments in this Church are few. One to the memory of *Thomas Bradford*, "*Qui juventum Exoniensem instituerat.*" And another inscribed "*Optimi integerrimique viri Hugonis Vaghan, armigeri.*" And against the north wall is a neat marble monument, of modern erection, to the memory of —— *Jeffery, Esq.* of this city.

Benefactions to the parish of Saint Lawrence.

The following benefactions have been given to the poor of this parish, viz: *Elizabeth Bucknam*, widow and relict of *William Bucknam, Esq.* (Alderman and sometime Mayor of this city) by her last will and testament, dated the 16th of May, ninth of *Elizabeth*, 1567, gave to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of *Exeter*, and their successors for ever, all that tenement, with the appurtenances, situate in the parish of *St. Petrock*, in the *High-street*, late in possession of *Richard Lane, Esq.* of *London*, to the intent that out of the rent of £2 15*s.* 8*d.* there be distributed to five poor householders, of the parish of *St. Lawrence*, yearly, as the Mayor and twenty-four shall think meet, *thirteen shillings and four-pence*, viz: to every one of them, quarterly, *eight-pence.**

Sir John Ackland, of *Colomb-John*, by his last will and testament, dated the 14th of September, seventh of *James* I. 1609, among other charities, enfeoffed certain members of the Chamber with the Rectory and Sheaf of *Churchstow* and *Kingsbridge*, in the county of *Devon*, for and towards the buying of bread for the poor of the several parishes mentioned in the said will, of which this parish was to receive £1 6*s.* yearly.

Elizabeth Seldon, widow of *Lawrence Seldon*, a native and merchant of *Exeter*, in addition to her said husband's charities, which are mentioned in their different parishes, † granted, enfeoffed, and confirmed to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of *Exeter*, and their successors for ever, the lands given by her said husband, with the addition of one hundred marks,

* The remainder of the said rent, in equal proportions, was to be given in like manner to the parishes of Allhallows on the Walls and the Holy Trinity, (which will be mentioned in the course of this description;) and the three shillings and four-pence overplus were to be equally distributed among the poor of the three parishes aforesaid.

† See *St. Mary Major, Trinity, St. Sidwell*, and *St. Thomas'* parishes.

CHAP. VI. her free gift, on condition that the said Mayor, &c. should cause to be distributed every Sunday, weekly, after forenoon service, six pennyworth of bread to the poor of this parish, and maintain the same for ever, as appears by the deed tripartite, dated the 29th of September, forty-first of *Elizabeth*, 1599.

St. John's Hospital.

In this parish, adjoining the site of the ancient *East-gate*, are the Hospital and Chapel of *St. John*. But before I proceed to give any account of this foundation it will be necessary to give some account of the ancient Cell or Priory, built before this, and dedicated to *St. Alexius*. Of this small religious foundation we have little more left than the name, and that it was erected by *William Fitz-ralph*, a Citizen hereof, for the habitation of certain poor Priests, in the year 1164; it was afterwards termed *St. Burians;* and in the year 1240 was united to this Hospital of *St. John*. Its site cannot at this time be determined, but it has been supposed that it stood in or near *Gandy's-lane*,* from the similarity of the name, that lane having heretofore been termed *St. Lucie's-lane*. This Hospital of *St. John* appears by an indented deed, dated A. D. 1238, to have been founded by *Gilbert* and *John Lony*, sons of *Walter Long*, an inhabitant of this city, who endowed the same with all their lands, for the maintenance of certain poor people, by them therein placed; and appointed the Mayor and Citizens to be guardians in trust thereof after their decease. But *Mr. Speed* says that "this Hospital was a Priory of *Franciscan Monks*, and so continued until the year 1536, when it was suppressed by act of parliament." This contradictory account is easily settled, it being common in those religious foundations to blend religious and eleemosynary acts together, and it is certain that at the dissolution, besides the religious there were four poor alms-men therein, (who were termed the poor pensioners of *St. John's Hospital)* who had a yearly allowance of £1 1*s*. 8*d*. for their better maintenance, during their lives; and Queen *Elizabeth*, by her letters patent, dated the 8th of November, 1562, granted to the Mayor and Aldermen the perpetual nomination of them.† In the year 1224 a dispute arose between the Mayor and Citizens, on the one part, and the then Bishop, *Brewer*, concerning the patronage of this Hospital and that of *St. Mary Magdalene* in this city, when it was

Foundation of St. John's Hospital.

* *Gandy's-lane* received its present epithet from a very respectable family of that name, who long resided in it, and of which the present *Rev. John Gandy*, of *Plymouth*, Prebendary of this Cathedral, is a descendant.

† These Pensioners have been discontinued but a few years, and the author is informed that one if not two of them are now living, (1802) but deprived of both their houses and pensions.

finally agreed, by the arbitration of the Earl of *Devon*, that the Bishops in future should be patrons of *St. John's Hospital*, and the Mayor and his successors should have the government of *St. Mary Magdalene's*. In the year 1256 Bishop *Bronscombe* repaired this house, and endowed it with the Manors of *Rokesdon* and *St. Mary Clist*. His successor, Bishop *Quivill*, was likewise a considerable benefactor to it, both in lands and goods. There is no account of any more gifts or legacies to this charity, but that it continued in the same state until its dissolution: after that period it was deprived of all its revenues, and remained in a ruinous state until the year 1623, when the whole fee and inheritance, together with the orchard, gardens, and contiguous buildings belonging to the same, were purchased by *Dame Joan Crossing*, widow of *Hugh Crossing*, *Esq.* sometime Mayor of this city, and her only son, *Francis Crossing*, *Esq.* for the sum of £740; who, by their deed indented, dated the 14th of January, 1623, granted the whole of the said premises unto thirteen persons, then members of the Common Council, and to their heirs for ever; upon trust, nevertheless, that the trustees should at all times continue the said house and premises as an Hospital or Workhouse, for the poor of the said city and county, in such manner as the Mayor and Common Council, for the time being, or the major part of them, should direct; the said poor people or childrern to be always chosen, received, taken, set to work, governed, directed, disposed of, continued and removed into, out of, and from the said Hospital, by the Mayor and Common Council aforesaid. Notwithstanding the good intentions of this donation, through the errors of the trustees, little benefit accrued to the poor; several attempts were made to remedy the evils, but no good effect was gained, to the great discontent of the pious donors. At length, by additional donations of several other worthy Citizens, the Chamber was enabled to procure letters patent from King *Charles* I. for the foundation of an Hospital, for the relief and pious education of poor children; the expences of which, together with the repairing and new building the edifices thereunto belonging, amounted to upwards of £400; since which time great benefactions have been given to this Hospital, as follow:—

Walter Borough, *Esq.* (twice Mayor of *Exeter)* by his deed indented, dated October the 28th, 1625, gave £20, yearly, for ever, to be paid quarterly, at the four most usual feasts in the year, by equal portions.

Nicholas Martyn, *Esq.* (sometime Mayor of *Exeter)* by his last will, dated August the 29th, 1694, bequeathed £200 to purchase land, for the better support of the Hospital, to which

CHAP. VI. his widow, *Susanna Martyn*, added £130. With this money two houses were purchased, opposite *St. Kerrian's* Church, *North-street;* the rents of which are appropriated to the use of the said Hospital, for ever.

Thomas Tooker, Brewer, of this city, and sometime Sheriff thereof, by will, March 21st, 1640, gave an annuity of £4, to continue for ever.

James White, Merchant, by will, dated September the 28th, 1643, gave, for ever, a garden and court, adjoining to the Hospital, situate in *Little Britain*, in the parish of *Allhallows on the Walls*, in lieu of the annual sum of 40*s*. which for several years he had paid towards the support thereof.

Grace Gill, servant to *Mr. Francis Dabynot*, by will, April 18th, 1645, bequeathed £5.

James Gould, *Esq*. late Mayor, gave by will, September 10th, 1656, £100, to be vested in lands, for its use.

John Mongwell, Stationer, late of this city, by will, October 10th, 1658, bequeathed certain lands, of the yearly value of £5, to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty, for ever, towards the purchasing of bibles for the use of the poor scholars from time to time.

Rebecca Borough, widow of *Walter Borough*, *Esq*. by an indented deed, dated October 1st, 1649, gave £200.

Richard Crossing, *Esq*. late Mayor, for many years in his lifetime gave £8 per annum for the support of the Hospital: he also gave in land and money to the value of £500 more, with which the present Corn Market was erected, out of the profits of which an annual rent-charge of £30 is paid to the said Hospital for ever, as by an indenture tripartite, dated September 30th, 1661, more particularly appears.

Ralph Herman, *Esq*. late Mayor, by his will, dated July 25th, 1661, gave an annual rent-charge of £8 for ever.

Gilbert Kent, *Esq*. late of *London*, Merchant, by an indenture, dated August the 12th, 1656, gave to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty £400, for the maintenance of four children, two boys and two maids, from time to time to be taken out of the parish of *St. Mary Major*, being the place of his birth and baptism: the said two boys and two maidens to be received in the mentioned Hospital, and the intended Hospital for maids, within the city, there to be educated, and from thence bound out apprentices: the said children to wear on the sleeves of their hospital gowns, G. K.*

John Cook, Merchant, late of the Common Council, by his will, dated April the 19th, 1667, gave £100 to this Hospital.

* That part of the will respecting their being chosen out of the parish of *St. Mary Major* and wearing the badge on the sleeves of their gowns is not fulfilled.

Stephen Olivean, Merchant, also one of the Common Council, by will, dated May the 20th, 1668, gave an annuity of £10.

John Bidgood, M. D. a native of *Exeter*, by his last will gave £600 towards the maintenance and education of three poor children to be admitted into the Hospital. The Chamber, by making an addition to this legacy, purchased a rent-charge of £30 per annum, issuable from *Duryard Mill*, in the parish of *St. David*, which, according to the will of the donor, they settled upon the Hospital for ever.

John Tucker, Merchant, a native of *Exeter*, by his will, made in 1695, gave to this Hospital £100.

John Gupwill, sometime Mayor, gave £30. *Joan Taylor*, widow of *Peter Taylor*, late of this city, Merchant, gave £100. *John Hayne*, Merchant, late Sheriff, £10. *Philippa Hayne*, his widow, £10. *John Lovering*, Merchant, late of the Common Council, £120. *Dorothea Mogridge*, widow, for many years during her life, £8, annually, and by her will bequeathed for ever the income of a tenement, situate in *Colyton*, named *Bearsdon*.

Robert Vilvaine, M. D. a native of *Exeter*, was a generous benefactor to this foundation: first, he expended near £600 in erecting a new building within the same: and towards the endowment of the Free Grammar School he gave the inheritance of a tenement, situate in *Paris-street*, then of the yearly value of £2 13*s.* 4*d.* He likewise purchased of the Mayor and Chamber, for a term of 999 years, a piece of ground, in *Exe Island*, on which he built a large Brewhouse, with a Malthouse adjoining, called the *Public Brewhouse*, which he gave to the Chamber for the following charitable purposes, viz:—For and towards the maintenance of four poor scholars, to be taken out of the Free Grammar School here and sent to *Exeter College*, in *Oxford;* and for allowing £8 per annum for a School-mistress, to teach poor children, freely, in the parish of *St. Sidwell*.

The following instructions the worthy Doctor also penned, and left to the trustees for the better fulfilling his charitable intentions:—

"1st. I give for ever *Thirty-two pounds*, yearly, to be paid quarterly, to four scholars, pensions, (to wit) forty shillings each, towards their maintenance in the University, which shall be paid to the Rector or Sub-Rector of *Exeter College*, for the time being, by the Mayor and Chamber, or Corporation of *Exeter* city, out of my Brewhouse and Malthouse built, or shortly to be built, in the Manor of *Exe Island*, belonging to the said city, which land I have purchased for that and other charitable uses."

"2d. These four Pensioners are to partake of this exhibition,

CHAP. VI. who have not of their own, and whose Parents are not of ability to maintain them in the University."

"3d. These shall be chosen, two out of the High School, *Exon*, and two out of the Free Grammar School,* and this order is still to be observed in the Hospital, which the Master of the School, when he is to present those that are fittest, without any partiality, to the Mayor and Recorder of the said city, for the time being, who shall be electors after my death, together with the Schoolmaster of that school, out of which he or they are to be chosen, or any two of them, who shall choose *city born children before strangers*, if they be so well qualified for learning, behaviour, toward lives, and poverty, without respect to persons."

"4th. These shall enjoy this pension seven years, if they shall so long continue in the University, and have no better preferment; but if they take any cure or benefice, academical fellowship or scholarship, or other advancement, exceeding £20 per annum, or if they be absent from the University more than two months in each year, not giving satisfactory reason for their absence to two, or at least one, of the electors, then his or their places and pensions shall be '*ipso facto*' void; and the electors shall instantly proceed to election for the supply of the place or places which shall become void, that no time may be lost."

"5th. If any of those places shall be void, and the School wherein the election is to be made have no Scholar at the time qualified to be elected, then the place or places void shall be supplied out of the other School, if it has any fit or eligible."

"6th. What exhibition shall come to the Receiver's hands, during such vacancy, the same shall be given to that Scholar or Scholars who shall be next chosen to succeed."

"7th. It is not the donor's intent to diminish or abolish the present or future bounty and benevolence of any well-disposed person or persons towards the maintenance of any poor scholars, whose parents are unable to maintain their Children at the University, but he much desires that people would be so well minded to advance learning by free contribution."

"8th. If hereafter the two Grammar Schools in the said city shall be united in one, then from thenceforth all the said four Scholars or Pensioners shall be chosen out of the school remaining, by the said Mayor, Recorder, and Schoolmaster, or any two of them as aforesaid."

"9th. The pensions shall be paid to them from quarter to quarter, or a week or fortnight before each quarter, by the

* These two Schools have been for many years united in one.

Rector or Sub-Rector of *Exeter College*, their battels or commons first deducted, but if it exceed forty shillings (aforesaid) quarterly, they shall battel or common no more until they have discharged or satisfied the overplus for security or indemnity to the said College."

Thomas Walker, Esq. (thrice Mayor of *Exeter)* by his last will, dated November the 20th, 1628, gave to his executors in trust £200, that they should, within one year after his decease, therewith procure from the Mayor and Common Council an annuity or rent charge, out of the city lands, of such yearly value as should be agreed upon; or in default of such agreement that the said £200 be laid out in purchasing other lands, which were to be conveyed to the Mayor and Common Council, or such others as they should appoint, towards the founding, erecting, and endowing of a free Grammar School, within the said city, whereby the children of the freemen might be freely instructed in the Latin tongue.

Robert Walker, Esq. (late Mayor) son to the aforesaid *Thomas Walker*, by his last will, dated February the 10th, 1663, bequeathed to the Mayor and Common Council £100, to be paid within one year after his decease, and bestowed in lands, the yearly issues and profits thereof to be employed in such manner and to such purposes as the gift of his father.

The *Lady Mary Prideaux*, a native of this city, sent £100 to the Chamber, to be disposed of for the placing children in the Hospital, which was erecting for the relief and education of poor children; for which they gave their receipt, dated September the 19th, 1630.

Sir Benjamin Oliver, Knight, (late Mayor) by will, dated April the 16th, 1672, bequeathed £200 towards the maintenance of poor scholars in the said Hospital.

George Jourdaine, Grocer, of this city, by will, dated August the 22nd, 1632, gave to a new School, to be erected, £30. And his widow and executrix, by will, dated September the 27th, 1633, gave £400, to five persons, to be employed to such good and pious uses, within the city and county of *Exon*, as they should think fit; which £400, after much controversy, was, in October, 1646, by the Trustees, paid to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty, towards founding and erecting an *English School*, within the said city, and providing a convenient room in *St. John's Hospital* for that purpose, to be called the *Free English School*, for the reception of fifty poor children, to be taught to read, write, and cipher: that the Master of the said School shall have £20 per annum, to be paid him quarterly, in equal portions; that the said Trustees, at every vacancy of a Schoolmaster, within sixty days after

CHAP. VI. notice given, do nominate two honest men, fit to undertake the charge of the said School, of whom the Mayor and Common Council, within twenty days after the nomination, are to choose one; and after the decease of the said Trustees the Mayor and Common Council are to nominate the Master for ever.

Mr. Peter Hellyer was elected Master of this School in 1637, to which, as well as to the Hospital, he was a liberal benefactor, and gave, out of his own salary, &c. for the promoting this charity, the following sums:—First, by computation, he taught forty supernumerary boys, gratis, (besides those for which he had a pension) for thirty years together, reckoned at £600. Secondly, he deducted forty shillings per annum for each Hospital boy, out of the stipend allowed him; which, upon thirty boys, for thirty years, amounts to £1,800 more. Thirdly, he remitted upon the rent of the Malthouse, and £5 a year, both of which his predecessors had (respecting monies lent him) valued at £13 per annum, for ten years, making £130. Fourthly, he produced receipts for £500, which he left in the hands of different Stewards of the said Hospital, and which he gave out of his pension of £6 per annum for each boy; the whole amounting to £3,030.

Sir John Maynard, Knight, one of the executors of the will of *Elize Hele, Esq.* (who left a plentiful estate to be disposed of in charitable and pious uses) among many other charitable actions, gave £530 towards the enlargement, and for the better support of the boys in this Hospital. And for their continual maintenance he settled upon the said Hospital the rents of the Manors of *Clist St. Lawrence, Clist St. Giles, Clist Gerrard,* and *Teignharvey;* also of certain lands and tenements situate in *Bovey Tracey* and *Newton Ferris,* all being in the county of *Devon.*

Christopher Lethbridge, Esq. (sometime Mayor of *Exeter)* by will, dated November the 21st, 1669, gave to the Mayor, Common Council, &c. several lands, tenements, &c. (which will be mentioned in the proper place) for several charitable purposes; the overplus of the rent of the said estates he devised should for ever be appropriated for the maintenance of one poor boy in this Hospital.*

Sir Edward Seward, Knight, (sometime Mayor, and one of the representatives for *Exeter)* A. D. 1703, gave towards the education of the poor children in the Hospital the sum of £600, which money, with the addition of £119, paid by the Governors of the said Hospital, was disposed of in the purchasing an estate in land, and settled on the Hospital for ever.

* See parish of Holy Trinity.

Mary Modgford, (widow of *John Modgford, Esq.* sometime Mayor) gave, in her lifetime, £20 for the better support of the same.

Edward Mitchell, Gent. by will, gave thereto £400,* for the continual maintenance of two boys (if it could be done) within the same.

Sir John Ackland, Knight, of *Columb-John*, gave £16 per annum towards the support of two poor scholars in *Exeter College, Oxford*, to be chosen from the High School, which choice is to be approved of by the Mayor, Recorder, Schoolmaster, Rector of *Exeter College*, and the proprietor of *Columb-John*, or any three of them, for the time being.

Nicholas Clarke, Weaver, of the parish of *St. Sidwell*, gave £5.

Elizabeth Dowrich, widow of ——— *Dowrich, Esq.* of *Dowrich*, in the county of *Devon*, and daughter of *Thomas Walker, Esq.* (thrice Mayor of *Exon.*) by will, bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty £50, towards erecting and endowing a free Grammar School within this Hospital.

Henry Gandy, Esq. (twice Mayor) gave to this Hospital the fee-simple and inheritance, for ever, of a tenement, situate in the parish of *St. Sidwell*, towards the maintenance of two poor boys in the same; *which said Boys were by the Donor's will always to be chosen out of the parish of St. Paul, in this city.*

Tristram Mitchell, Woollen Draper, late of this city, by will, dated July the 27th, 1653, bequeathed, for the use of the poor children in this Hospital, twenty coloured English rugs and five pieces of Welch flannel for blankets.

John Martyn, Esq. (sometime Mayor) bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty, by will, dated October the 15th, 1669, the sum of £400, to be paid by his executors within twelve months after his decease, and in case of default the said Mayor, &c. were empowered to enter and take possession of two pieces of ground in the parish of *St. Thomas the Apostle*, in the county of *Devon*, commonly called *Wood Meadows*, and the inheritance to be theirs for ever; the interest or income of which are for ever to be appropriated for the binding out poor children apprentices, such as the Mayor and Justices shall think fit.

Nicholas Ricost, Merchant, late of *Exeter*, bequeathed the sum of £20 towards the maintenance and better support of this Hospital.

Grace Sheer, widow of *John Sheer, Esq.* (sometime Mayor) gave £50 towards erecting a Dwelling-house within the

* There was only £320 of this money paid to the Trustees.

CHAP. VI. Hospital, for an habitation for the Master of the free Grammar School there.

John Newcombe, Esq. (Alderman, and sometime Mayor) bequeathed, by will, three large and convenient dwelling-houses, with the courts and offices belonging to them, situate in the *High-street*, and in the parish of *St. Stephen, Exeter;* the profits from thence arising are for ever to be appropriated to the use of the Hospital.

Thomas Bridgman, Gent. (a native of this city) by will, dated April the 3rd, 1641, gave £500, to be paid by his executors within one year after his death; which sum should be employed by the Chamber of *Exon*, at their religious discretion, towards the relief of the poor of the said city and suburbs, and so to continue for ever; the interest of this money, by the mutual consent of his executors and the Chamber, has ever since been appropriated towards binding out the poor boys educated in this Hospital, when they became of a proper age.

The Chamber of *Exeter* have also been great benefactors to this charity, by improving its revenues, and re-building and enlarging the buildings, in which they have of late years expended great sums. The Dwelling-house for the Master of the Grammar School (which heretofore was within the front gate, on the left side of the quadrangle) being small and inconvenient, which prevented the said Master from accommodating the numerous boarding scholars that made application, the Chamber erected a capacious brick building without the city walls, but contiguous to the Hospital, with every accommodation for that purpose; and, to prevent the young gentlemen from having too much communication with the Citizens, they enclosed with a stone wall a large piece of ground behind the house, which forms a spacious area for their exercise and pastime. On taking down the East-gate the front of the Chapel (which before was hid by the contiguous buildings) was found, on a survey, to be greatly decayed, and necessary to be re-built, which was accordingly done, and the whole Chapel repaired and beautified.

A few years afterwards the ancient gateway (which by its projection into the street was a great nuisance) was taken down, and the present elegant gothic structure erected in its stead;* and in the year 1802, the west wing of the front, being greatly decayed, and likely to fall, was re-built, in a style corresponding to the Chapel, which entirely completes the front, and forms a regular gothic building; at the same time the Grammar

* On digging for a foundation for the present gateway the remains of several human bodies were discovered, which were interred across the ancient entrance; they must have lain there for many centuries.

School was repaired and beautified. The great expences occasioned by these repairs, together with the great advances in the price of the necessary articles of life, obliged the Trustees to lessen the number of boys on the foundation, but it is to be hoped that in a few years they will be enabled to put this charitable foundation on a better footing than ever.

We shall next proceed to a particular description of this Hospital, and first of the Chapel.

St. John's Chapel.

After the dissolution of this Hospital, in the reign of *Henry* VIII. the Chapel was neglected, and left in a ruinous state, until the year 1638, when it was thoroughly repaired and beautified, at the sole charge of *Alice Hele*, widow of *Elize Hele, Esq.* and re-consecrated by Bishop *Hall*. This edifice (which is part of the front, on the left side of the gateway) is small and neat, with an arched roof, and gothic windows, which were formerly glazed with painted glass, of which some remains are left, and arranged in different figures, particularly in the window over the altar, where the arms of the ancient Earls of *Cornwall*, and those of the families of *Crossing* and *Hele* are still in tolerable preservation.

The altar-piece is neatly painted, with the decalogue, &c. and the half-length portraits of *Moses* and *Aaron*, decorated with Cherubims' heads, neatly carved.

The communion table, which is separated from the body of the Chapel by a balustrade, has a beautiful covering of crimson velvet, decorated with gold fringe, the gift of *Miss Webber*, of this city. Soon after the late repairs the Chamber gave to this Chapel a neat service of communion plate, of silver, to which *B. H. Walker, Esq.* Alderman, added a silver cup.

The pulpit is very neat, and on the summit of the baldequin is a gilt statue of an angel, sounding a trumpet. Opposite is an advanced seat, richly carved, for the Mayor and Chamber, who generally attend Divine Service in this Chapel one Sunday afternoon in each month, when service is performed alternately by one of the Mayor's Chaplains, who are four in number.

Adjoining the reading desk, and opposite the Mayor's seat, are other advanced seats for the Mayoress, the wives of the Stewards, and those of the gentlemen of the Chamber who choose to attend; at the west end of the Chapel is a gallery for the accommodation of the boarders, which has a private passage to the Master's house and school. There is one bell

CHAP. VI. belonging to the Chapel, which is hung in a turreted arch, at the west end.*

In the front of the Hospital, over the gateway, is a clock, dial, and bell, which were taken from East-gate at the time of its demolition.

Grammar School. The other wing in the front is appropriated to the Grammar School, in which is a capacious room, with elevated seats for the Master and Assistants, who are Clergymen in orders; the School at present is held in great reputation, and the boarders and scholars are very numerous. In the roof, over the School-room, is a glazed cupola, surmounted with a vane, and behind the School is a Library: the present Master of the Grammar School is the *Rev. Robert Bartholomew.*

Cloth Hall. Under the School and Library are large halls, anciently the Cloisters, these are termed the Cloth Hall, and are used for the sale of broad and narrow woollen cloths, during the fairs held in this city, and which brings in a considerable revenue to the Hospital.

That part which is appropriated to the use of the Governor and boys on the foundation are irregular buildings, the work of different times: the entrance into them appears very ancient, and from the arches and columns remaining is probably a work of the *Saxons:* on the right hand of this entrance is a statue of one of the Hospital boys, in his gown, &c.† The boys are carefully looked after, and provided with food, clothing, and lodging, are educated in reading, writing, and arithmetic, and at a proper age a premium of five pounds is given for binding them apprentices to different trades. Besides the Governor's house there is a good house and school for the Writing Master, who has an annual salary, with the privilege of instructing more scholars than those on the foundation: the Governor, Master of the Grammar School, and Writing Master have gardens belonging to their respective houses; and in that part which is termed *Dr. Vilvayne's* building there is a capacious committee-room for the Trustees, in which are large tablets containing the different benefactions to this charity. The present House Governor is *George Hayman*, and the Writing Master *Arthur Pye.*

* Divine service is regularly performed in this Chapel twice every Sunday by the Master of the Grammar School, who has the farming out the seats (except those appropriated to the use of the Hospital) for his emolument.

† It is related that this statue was designed to represent *George Wall*, a boy upon the foundation remarkable for his good behaviour and attachment to learning: there is still G. W. to be seen on the inside of his cap.

Bampfylde House.

In *Bampfylde-lane*, in this parish, is an ancient house, which has for many ages been in the possession of that most respectable family the *Bampfyldes*, of *Poltimore*, as an occasional residence, when county business or pleasure called them to *Exeter;* it belongs at present to *Sir Charles Warwick Bampfylde*, *Bart.* one of the representatives in parliament for this city: this house, though not very large, has several good rooms, neatly furnished; and in the lobby is a curious antique chimney-piece, in the centre or umbo of whose entablature is a statue of the royal martyr King *Charles* I. in complete armour, mounted on a charger, and holding a truncheon in his right hand; on each side of this statue, instead of pilasters, are the statues of Peace and Plenty; and on the outer side of these are two grotesque statues of a Cavalier and Puritan, clothed in the habits of the times; the whole of the figures, with the other embellishments, are in good preservation, and neatly executed in alto relievo; they were designed and placed here by *Sir Copplestone Bampfylde*, soon after the restoration.

In the window of the lobby are several armorial bearings in stained glass, with inscriptions round them, relating to the intermarriages of the family: from the style of the characters these paintings appear to have been executed in the fourteenth century.

New Meeting-house.

The old goal for the county of *Devon* stood partly in this parish; the site of which is now occupied by a Dissenting Meeting-house, which is a capacious good building, and has a large congregation belonging to it; the interior part is very neat, and well seated, and the design does great credit to the architect; adjoining it is a small burying ground.

At the corner of *Castle-street* stood an ancient edifice, lately re-built, formerly the *Castle Tavern*, which, according to tradition, was for many years the dwelling-house of the Governor of the Castle; from its architecture it appeared to have been re-built in the fourteenth century, on the ruins of a building of more ancient date, which was supported by semicircular arches,* filled up with rough masonry, (probably the remains of some Cloisters;) underneath were large stone vaults, and an arched doorway, that led to a subterranean cavern, walled up and filled with rubbish, which in all probability communicated with the Castle. In the house was a decent Chapel, with a vaulted roof, quite entire till the late alterations.

In *Musgrave's Alley*, formerly *Trinity Lane*, was a small religious foundation, dedicated to the *Holy Trinity*, containing

* One of the arches is still remaining, in an adjoining tenement, behind the new building.

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a House and Chapel for two Priests, which in the year 1445 were converted by the Dean and Chapter into a Grammar School, for instructing youth in the classical languages, and £20 per annum settled upon the Master. This School, in the year 1561, was re-built by a voluntary contribution of the Citizens, and the nomination of the Master conferred on the Chamber, by Bishop *Cotton:* about the year 1740 it was united, by consent of the Trustees, to the free Grammar School, in *St. John's Hospital*, and is now again converted into a Chapel, by the followers of *Mr. John Wesley*, who have decently fitted it up, and erected a gallery: they have a large congregation.

Methodist Meeting-house.

In this parish, according to the late survey, there were seventy-eight houses, four of which were uninhabited, containing one hundred and twenty-three families, consisting of two hundred and twenty-eight males and three hundred and twenty females, in all five hundred and forty-eight inhabitants.

Precinct of Bradninch.

Adjoining *St. Lawrence* is the Precinct of *Bradninch*, in old writings called *Braines*.

This small district, which is part of the ancient glacis of the Castle, is the land of the Prince of *Wales*, (as Duke of *Cornwall)* and held as such by leases granted from that Dutchy Court.

The part most commonly termed *Bradninch* consists of genteel houses, near the city walls, built on an elevated situation; they have good gardens, and a pleasant prospect to the south and west, and from its not being a thoroughfare it is very retired, enjoying all the peace of a country village, in the midst of an opulent city. In this district are the neat house and gardens of *Edmund Granger, Esq.;* the gardens (part of the Castle fosse) are beautifully laid out, and planted with forest and other trees, the design of the late ingenious *Mr. John Patch*, Surgeon, of this city, who built the house: the present possessor has greatly improved the house and gardens, which are justly admired, and deserve the attention of all visitors.

The district contains but eight houses, one of which, on the late survey, was uninhabited, there were but seven families, comprising six males and twenty-six females, total thirty-two inhabitants.

Saint Sidwell's.

North-east of *St. Lawrence* (without the city walls) is the extensive parish of *St. Sidwell.* The church of which is a regular gothic edifice, consisting of a nave, two aisles, a chancel, and two galleries, spacious enough to contain a numerous congregation: these galleries were in the year 1804 greatly enlarged, and rebuilt in a semicircular form; in the centre part of which an elegant organ is erected, purchased at the expence of the parishioners and feoffees.

The roof is vaulted, and supported by eight gothic pillars, which have remarkable capitals, each consisting of four demi-angels, supporting shields on their breasts; between each angel is a small niche containing a statue.

The Pulpit* is a neat piece of workmanship; on the panels are carved, in basso relievo, the four Evangelists, &c.; and on the top of the baldequin is the gilt statue of an angel, sounding a trumpet; the pulpit-cloth and cushion, as well as those of the reading-desk, are of crimson velvet, with gold fringe and tassels, (the gift of *Thomas Strong*, of this parish, brick-maker;) in the centre of the nave is a large brass chandelier, (presented by the parishioners about the year 1780.) The font is very ancient, and, by its ornaments, appears to be of *Saxon* construction.

The chancel is separated from the nave by a gothic screen, which, in the papal times, supported a rood loft; this screen has lately been re-painted and gilt; the altar-piece, (which was newly erected in the year 1801) is composed of marble panels, on which are engraven the decalogue, &c. the letters gilt.

In the windows are still some remains of painted glass, (the vestiges of their ancient beauty;) among which are the arms of King *Edward* the Confessor, and some other armorial bearings.† When a church was first erected on this spot is not known, but as it is mentioned soon after the *Norman Conquest* it is very probable that a religious structure stood there during the *Saxon* era; for in doomsday book it is recorded, with the parish, as part of the possessions belonging to *Exeter;* and in the year 1222 it is mentioned as being one of the parochial churches then in this city; but the present edifice is of much later date; and from the arms of the *Courtenays*, Earls of *Devon*, carved on one of the blocks of the roof, probably the date of its erection might be about the latter end of the thirteenth century, as it much resembles the architecture of that period. Adjoining the church is a small chapel, now used as a vestry. The ancient tower was much ruined during the Rebellion of the Commons, A. D. 1549, when both it and the church were converted into a prison for the Royalists; and in the year 1659 it was re-built by the contribution of the Citizens at large: this tower is lofty, and of a reddish stone; it has a projecting staircase, and strong buttresses; at one corner there

* This pulpit is constructed on the model of that in the nave of the Cathedral, but is much inferior in size and excellence of workmanship.

† It would be a great ornament to the church if the coats of arms and other remains of the painted glass were collected, replaced, and properly arranged in the window over the altar, similar to those newly done in the Cathedral.

CHAP. VI. is a small spire, supporting a gilt weathercock, which formerly graced the spire on the Cathedral; at the other corners are pinnacles: it has a fine peal of eight bells, which were re-cast about the year 1770.*

There was a set of chimes belonging to this tower, but being often out of repair, and occasioning great expences, they were taken down; the barrel is still remaining under the belfry. The tower has a good clock and dial.

This living is an appropriation belonging to the Dean and Chapter, who are also Lords of the Manor, and hold a Court-leet within the same: at this court Stewards appoint annual Ale-Tasters, and Manor Constables; and great disputes have oftentimes occurred between them and the Mayor and Citizens, concerning their different prerogatives and liberties.

This church being only a daughter church to that of *Heavitree*, the Vicar of that parish appoints his Curate to serve. The *Rev. James Newcombe, B. A.* Dean's Vicar, and one of the Priest Vicars of the Cathedral, has the present cure.

The monumental inscriptions in this church are but few; the following are the only ones worth preserving:—

In the north aisle is one of variegated marble, representing a large urn, standing upon an altar, over which are the arms of *Cheeke*, impaled with other coats, and on the front of the altar is this inscription:—

Sacred to the memory of Phineas Cheeke, Esq. *who died the* 7th of October, 1753, *and lies interred near his ancestors, in the south aisle of this church, aged* 80.

In the chancel is interred the body of *Hugh Grove, Esq.* a gentleman of *Wiltshire;* who, in the year 1655, with several others, taking up arms for the restoration of their lawful Sovereign King *Charles* II. were defeated at *Southmolton*, taken prisoners, and brought to this city, where they were tried, and condemned by the then ruling democracy; and two of them, viz: *Hugh Grove* and *John Penruddock, Esquires*, were beheaded, on the 16th of May, 1655, in *Exeter Castle;* and three days after *Mr. Grove's* friends had licence to inter his body in this church: on his grave-stone is a brass plate, with the following inscription:†

* There is a tradition that three of these bells formerly belonged to Allhallows on the Walls, and that on its demolition they were taken down by order of the Republican Governor of this city, in order to be converted into cannon; but the inhabitants of St. Sidwell's having intelligence of this, privately, by night, conveyed them away; *George Cheeke*, Brewer, of St. Sidwell's, lent them his cart and horses for that purpose.

† This plate being much worn was lately supplied by a new one, and the inscription copied verbatim.

Hic jacet Hugo Grove de Enford, *in Comitatu* Wilts *Armiger, in Restituendo ecclesiam, in asserendo regem, in propugnando legem, et libertatem Anglicanam, captus et decollatus,* 16 May, 1655.

It appears that this plate was re-placed the 16th of May, 1788.

On a plain tablet, fixed in the chancel wall, is this inscription:—

In memory of Elizabeth Turner, *wife of* Thomas Turner, *great-grandchild of the* Earl *of* Huntingdon, *who died* ——— 1705, *and lies buried underneath.*

The benefactions given to this church and parish are numerous, of which the following are the principal:—

Sir John Ackland, Knight, of *Columb-John,* by his will, dated September the 14th, 1609, gave to the poor of this parish one dozen of bread weekly, for ever.*

The Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral having for many years paid to the poor of this parish eight shillings weekly, and discontinuing the same for upwards of thirty years, a commission was issued forth upon the statute of charitable uses, in 1630, to enquire into the original ground of this charity, which was executed at the Guildhall, before the *Rev. Joseph Hall,* Bishop of this Diocess, and several other persons of quality; the matter was much controverted, some pleading it as a matter of right, others only a voluntary act. At length, on March the 17th, 1631, an inquisition was found for the poor, and a decree made, signed by nine of the Commissioners, and returned to the Court of Chancery; this being objected to by four of the Commissioners, fresh Commissions were issued, and the cause was heard before *Thomas Lord Coventry,* Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, by whom it was decreed that the said eight shillings weekly, amounting to £20 16*s.* per annum, should for ever be paid to the poor of the said parish of *St. Sidwell;* and that the sum of £572, for twenty-eight years arrears of that payment due, should be paid at two instalments, to the Guardians of the Poor, for the use of the poor of the said parish; which said sum was accordingly paid: but £151 3*s.* 8*d.* being expended in the prosecution of this suit, only £420 16*s.* 4*d.* remained clear for the use of the poor.

James Tucker, Esq. (sometime Mayor) by his will, dated June, 1643, bequeathed to the Chamber £100, to be bestowed in land, and the profits arising to be for ever appropriated towards the curing the lame, and relieving the sick and needy, (especially such as shall by accident break their limbs) of the parish of *St. Sidwell.*

* See parish of Saint Lawrence.

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Thomas Tooker, Brewer, of this city, gave to the poor of this parish an annuity of twenty shillings yearly, to be for ever issuable out of a field called *Job's Park;* and in case of non-payment of the same the Churchwardens and Overseers shall have power to enter and distrain for the same, until satisfaction shall be made.

Ralph Herman, Esq. (sometime Mayor) by his will, dated July the 25th, 1661, gave to the Wardens of this parish an annuity or rent-charge of £2 12*s.* yearly, for the purchasing one dozen of bread weekly, which said bread is to be delivered to twelve poor inhabitants of this parish every Sunday, after forenoon service. The said *Ralph Herman* (besides his former donation of fifty-two shillings yearly) gave to the Mayor and Chamber, in trust, £400, to be laid out in the purchase of lands, the rents of which were to be for ever employed towards the relief of poor people of the city, and the parish of *St. Sidwell.*

Mrs. Hester Bussel, by her last will, bequeathed an annuity of twenty shillings, yearly, for ever, to be laid out in six shifts, which said shifts were to be annually given on the Monday after Christmas-day, to six poor women of this parish, who did not receive parochial relief.

Thomas Bussel, son of the aforesaid *Hester Bussel*, likewise gave an annuity of twenty shillings yearly, for ever, to be laid out in six shirts, annually, to be given to six poor men, inhabitants of the said parish, on St. Stephen's-day.

John Cheeke, Merchant, of this city, gave one dozen of bread, to be for ever distributed weekly to the poor of this parish.

Christopher Sandford, Merchant, gave to the Churchwardens and Overseers of this parish an annuity or rent-charge, of £6 per annum, to be for ever payable out of those fields called *Summerlands*, lying near the Workhouse, which said annuity is for ever to be appropriated towards the binding out two or more boys, natives of this parish, apprentices.

Mrs. Ann Baker, of this city, gave an annuity of fifty shillings, issuing out of the same lands, to be distributed yearly, by the Minister, Churchwardens, and Overseers, the Thursday in Easter week, to the poor of the said parish.

John Moffatt, by will, dated November the 23d, 1717, gave unto *John Osmond* and others, in trust, £100, to be laid out by them in the purchase of a field or fields, and the rents thereof to be distributed annually to ten poor housekeepers, (not receiving alms) on the 29th day of September.

Thomas Smallridge, by will, dated October the 21st, 1719, charged all his lands with an annuity of £1 5*s.* for the purchasing of six new shirts or shifts, to be distributed to six poor

persons, inhabitants of the said parish, who have no other relief, at the choice of the Wardens and Overseers: the money to be paid and laid out yearly, for ever, on Christmas-day, or as soon after as possible.

The *Rev. John Newte*, of *Tiverton*, by will, gave to the Rector, Vicar, or Curate of this parish, and to their successors for ever, the moiety of two fields, situate in *Mary-Bow-lane*, in the said parish, to the intent that the rents thereof be for ever yearly disposed by him or them in the purchase of Bibles, with the Common Prayer prefixed, the Whole Duty of Man, and the Practice of True Devotion, by *Robert Nelson*, which said books were to be annually distributed to the poor of this parish, on or about Christmas-day, as the means of increasing true religion and devotion.

Lawrence Seldon, Esq. gave to the poor of this parish an annuity of £2 12*s.* yearly, one shilling of which was to be distributed weekly in bread, after morning service, every Sunday.

The church is dedicated to *St. Sidwella*, (sister to *St. Juthwara*) who was martyred and buried near this church, afterwards canonized, and much esteemed for her sanctity. *William* of *Worcester* has this record of her:—

"*Sancta Sativola, virgo Canonizata, jacet in Ecclesia sanctæ sativolæ civitatis Exoniæ ultra portam orientalem.*"

This *St. Sidwella* lived about the year 740; and near the church is an ancient well, supplied by a fine spring, named *St. Sid's Well*, near which, according to tradition, she lived a recluse life.

At the upper end of *St. Sidwell's-street* is an ancient chapel and alms-house, dedicated to *St. Ann;* these houses are under the patronage of the Dean and Chapter, and are eight in number, each consisting of two small rooms and a garden plat. Notwithstanding they have had several bequests since their foundation they are but meanly endowed; the stipends of the poor inhabitants not amounting to seven pence weekly. There was formerly an hermitage annexed to this chapel, but the date of the foundation of this small religious structure is now lost. The chapel, with the adjoining house, (fomerly the habitation of the Priest) appear of an ancient date; the chapel is very small, but has been beautifully ornamented in the gothic style; over the brackets, which supported the altar, are two gothic niches of neat workmanship, and there are some remains of painted glass in the window, it is now desecrated, without seats or ornaments, filthily kept, and sometimes used as a mortar house; over the chapel is a small turreted arch, formerly the receptacle of its only bell.*

* The ringing of this bell was formerly the signal given for assembling the

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After the general dissolution this house was purchased by *Oliver* and *George Manwaring*, brothers, and inhabitants of this city, who, about the year 1561, repaired it, added to its buildings, and converted it into an alms-house for eight poor people, committing the patronage thereof to the Dean and Chapter, and their successors.

During the intestine troubles in the reign of *Charles* I. the dignified Clergy being deprived of their benefices, it consequently lost its patrons; and when the city was straitened by the Royalists, this chapel, &c. was seized by a small party of them detached from the garrison of *Poltimore House*, who took post there, which they maintained, and greatly annoyed the Parliament garrison in the city, until its surrender to *Prince Maurice;* by this means the buildings were greatly ruinated, and continued in that state until the Restoration, when it was again repaired, and the alms-people replaced, by the Dean and Chapter.

The following benefactions have been given to this alms-house, viz:—

Ralph Duckenfield, Gent. of this city, by will, dated 1576, bequeathed a tenement, situate in *Preston-street*, in this city, towards the poor of the said houses, but the original deed having been embezzled in the troubles before mentioned the poor were deprived thereof.

About the year 1617, *Ann*, widow of *Francis Debina, M. D.* and afterwards wife of *Christopher Manwaring, Esq.* gave the fee-simple and inheritance of a meadow and tenement, situate near *Taddiford Bridge*, in the parish of *St. David;* this bequest was for many years concealed, and the poor deprived of it, but being at length recovered by a decree of chancery, May the 7th, 1665, the rents were decreed to be for ever paid for the better maintenance of the poor of these houses.

In this parish are likewise four other alms-houses, founded by *John Webb*, for four poor widows, inhabitants of the said parish, who endowed them with the rents and profits of four small fields, for ever: for which purpose he appointed certain Trustees, respectable inhabitants of the said parish, who, after his decease, were to have the sole management of this charity, and appointment of the alms-women therein; and after the death of one or more of the Trustees, the survivors were to appoint others in their room.

These houses a e gloomy habitations, consisting of only one

Grecians, (as the inhabitants of the parish are ludicrously termed) who frequently proceeded to riotous acts; it was taken down some years since by order of the Chapter, and lodged in the Chapter-house, where it at present remains.

room each, with a small garden behind; their weekly stipend is trifling and uncertain, as all necessary repairs of the houses are discharged from the income of their small estate: in the front is a tablet, on which is this inscription:—"*Webb's Almshouses, repaired in* 1730."

In a brick-ground, adjoining *Well-lane*, some years since, were discovered several urns, containing human ashes, as supposed; they were of very coarse workmanship, and bedded very deep in the clay; one of these urns is now in the possession of *Nicholas Strong*, Gardener. And in another brick-field, near *St. Ann's Chapel*, a small patera, of a regular circular figure, with a foot neatly turned, was found at the depth of twelve feet, in a solid bed of clay, which to all appearance had never been broken into: this patera is made of a beautiful red earth or clay, of excellent workmanship, and had been highly glazed, some part of which is still remaining; it is now in the possession of *James Wescombe*, Brickmaker.

In *Paris-street* is an ancient brick house, bequeathed by *Phineas Cheeke, Esq.* to certain Trustees, to the intent that an academy should be there instituted, for the education of young gentlemen for the ministry, (among Protestant Dissenters and other learned professions) as well as for civil and commercial life. The tutors were the *Rev. Mic. Towgood*, *Samuel Merivale*, *John Turner*, and *John Hogg*. After this institution had existed about ten years it sustained a great loss by the death of *Mr. Turner*, who read lectures in mathematics and natural philosophy, and at length totally sunk under the loss of *Mr. Merivale*, the divinity tutor. Soon after a school for the instruction of poor children was established in its place; this school, by the care of the Trustees, and liberal contributions of the Dissenters in general, has succeeded beyond expectation; at this present time upwards of one hundred children of both sexes are clothed and educated in such useful branches of literature as are sufficient to qualify them for the middling paths of life. And such are the philanthropic dispositions of the Trustees of this excellent institution that no exception is made to the religious tenets of the parents, but children of all christian persuasions are admitted, which is a great benefit to rising generations, and to the promoting of piety and christian virtue.

Saint Catharine's Chapel.

At the lower end of *Paris-street*, just as you ascend the hill towards *Heavitree*, there formerly stood (according to tradition) an ancient chapel, dedicated to *St. Catharine*, of which not the least vestige is now remaining, except in the name of an adjoining well, supplied by a fine spring, that issues from under the garden wall, and which in ancient writings is termed *St. Catharine's Well.*

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Workhouse

Beyond this is the Workhouse for the city; which is a large capacious building, situate on an airy healthy eminence: this house having been already described in the historical part, it would be unnecessary to say more of it.

Hill's Court.

At the lower end of *Longbrook-street* is a small village, partly in this parish, and partly in *St. David's;* in this hamlet are several genteel houses, with good gardens, in a pleasant retired situation, free from the noise and smoke of the city, yet almost contiguous to it; this place is termed *Hill's Court,* from a knightly family of that name who formerly had a spacious mansion there, and in which they lived with great splendor; it was long the residence of *Sir John Hill,* Lord Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench: but it has long since changed its owners, and no vestige of the ancient house is now remaining.

Marypole-head.

From this place there is an easy ascent to the top of the hill, now called *Marypole-head,** where there is a stone fixed as a boundary to the county of the city of *Exeter;* this stone is evidently sepulchral, but from whence it was brought is not known; on it are the following remains of an inscription:—

M° CCCCCXI QUORUM MAJES.

Stoke Hill.

As you ascend this hill a beautiful prospect opens to the view of part of the city, the Castle hill, clothed with wood, the Barracks, and the estuary of the river *Exe,* from *Topsham* to *Exmouth,* with the Bar and its mouth; also the fine cultivated country, interspersed with woods, villages, gentlemen's seats, &c. between the city and the heights of *Haldon* and *Penhill;* and at a great distance the bleak hills of *Dartmoor* and the *Haytor Rocks.* After a small descent you again ascend to the heights of *Stoke Hill,* from the top of which there is a circular prospect, extending in some places as far as the eye can reach; to the north-east as far as the vale of *Taunton Dean,* in *Somersetshire;* to the east beyond *Honiton;* to the south and west the sea from *Portland,* almost to the entrance of *Torbay,*

* From whence this hill obtained its name of *Marypole-head,* at this distance of time, can only be conjectural; there is a great probability that here was formerly a chapel dedicated to one of the *Marys,* which, from its elevated situation, being visible a great way to the surrounding country, obtained the name of *Mary's Pole,* (an ancient name for head) and the additional tautology of head was added by the ignorant in after ages; what leads further to strengthen this conjecture is that the road leading to this place from the *Tiverton* road is called, in old writings, *Mary-Bow-lane,* which probably alludes to some religious edifice situate in this lane, and built on stone arches, as it is well known that the church of *St. Mary-le-Bow,* in *London,* obtained the additional epithet from its being built on stone arches; however there is no vestige remaining of any building of this kind.

with the intervening country, esteemed the garden of *Devonshire;* and to the north-west and north the hills of *Dartmoor*, the vale of *Crediton*, and the mountainous tract which divides the county of *Devon* into two parts, (the *Jugum Ocrinum* of *Ptolemy*, and other ancient authors;) a little further on a landscape opens to your view, that can scarcely be excelled; *Pyne's-house* and park, (the seat of *Sir Stafford Henry Northcote, Bart.)* the beautiful valley beneath your eye, interspersed with arable and meadow lands, woods, villages, churches, farms, &c. with the rivers *Exe* and *Culm*, gliding in meanders, and joining their streams; this prospect almost exceeds description.

Roman Æstivum, or Summer Camp, on Stoke Hill.

Near this, on the summit of another hill, is an ancient entrenchment; the fosse in some places near twelve feet deep, and quite entire, as well as the graffe in some parts; this work is of a circular figure, two hundred and fifty-six paces in diameter, inclosing the whole summit, and contains about five acres of land; without this intrenchment, at the distance of about forty paces, are the remains of another fosse, which surrounded it at an equal distance, except the side next the river, where it trended down the declivity close to the river's bank.

There are adjoining hills more elevated than this, but probably its constructors made choice of this spot from its vicinity to the river, for which reason the outer ditch was extended to the river, to cover the waterers.

We have no accounts to elucidate who were the first constructors of this fortification; by some it has been attributed to the *Romans;* but their camps were generally of a square form, and its vicinity to their chief fortress in *Exeter* makes it improbable that they should construct another so near it. It might with more probability be ascribed to the *Britons*, whose camps were generally of a circular form, situate on the summit of a hill, and surrounded with almost impenetrable woods; with which, there can be no doubt, but that all those hills, before their being cleared for cultivation, were clothed, as *Stoke Wood* and others are still remaining; probably its antiquity might be dated as far back as the invasion of the *Belgæ*, under the command of *Diviaticus*, (upwards of two hundred years before the landing of *Julius Cæsar)* who penetrated into the heart of the *Danmonian* kingdom, and forced numbers of the inhabitants to seek for shelter in *Ireland*. In answer to this an objection might be made from its present name, *Bury Park*, which is evidently derived from the *Saxons, burgh,** (signifying a camp or settlement) or from *byrig*, a town; but it was common for those last invaders to take possession of the fortresses of the

* From whence is derived the present English term, borough.

CHAP. VI. natives, and to give a cognomen to them according to their language.

Their successors, the *Danes*, followed their example, in possessing and maintaining themselves in the strong holds of the *English*; and there is great reason to suppose that they took refuge here after their defeat at *Pinhoe*, in its vicinity.*

Not far from this intrenchment, at the bottom of *Mary-Bow-lane*, where the ancient road crosses the present turnpike, are two large stones, lying by the side of each other: they consist of moor-stone, or Devonshire granite, and by their regular symmetry and oblong shape seem to have been nicely hewn, but for what purpose cannot now be determined; they at present serve as a boundary mark between the county of *Devon* and that of the city of *Exeter*; but it does not seem probable that this was the original intention, from their large size, and their non-similarity to any of the other city boundary stones, which evidently were all taken from the ruins of religious edifices; (the city of *Exeter* being made a county of itself after their dissolution;) besides, there being two of them in one place, a circumstance very uncommon, as the bringing stones of such magnitude from *Dartmoor*, or its environs, must require much labour, and consequently great expence, and one would have answered every necessary purpose as a boundary mark. The largest of these stones is five feet eight inches in length, two feet eleven inches broad, and two feet five inches thick; the other measures in length five feet six inches, in breadth three feet one inch, and in depth one foot one inch. According to tradition, a cross stood on this spot, from whence the adjoining lane obtained the name of *Cross-lane*; but an observer may evidently determine that these stones were never any part of a cross, nor of the base of one, as there is no cavity to receive or support the shaft, so common in the erection of those structures.†

* The neighbouring cottagers informed the author that many bricks had been dug up in this fosse, and that they were thinner and wider than those made now; they were of a coarse brown mould, and very hard; that bricks were well known to the ancient Britons is not to be doubted. The very name of *brike* being truly *British*, which they very probably brought with them at their first emigration. "*At Babel they had bricks for stones, &c.*"

† The late learned and *Rev. Dr. Jeremiah Mills*, Dean of *Exeter*, and President of the Royal Antiquarian Society, on an inspection of these stones was of opinion that they were sepulchral, and of Druidical erection, as it was customary with the ancient Britons to erect one or more large stones over the graves of princes and men of note amongst them. They likewise had a custom of covering the graves of heroes with heaps of stones, which they termed karns. Many of their sepulchral monuments are in *Wales*, *Cornwall*, &c. which are composed of five stones in the form of a chest, two forming the sides, one

Adjoining to *Southernhay*, in this parish, in part of the fields formerly termed *St. John's Fields*, but of late years the *Barn-field*, there is at this present time a stately pile of buildings erecting, in the form of a crescent; the houses are of brick, on a gravelly soil, and in an healthy air, commanding a beautiful prospect of the neighbouring country; five houses are already constructed and inhabited; and the whole, when finished, will scarcely be excelled by any pile of brick buildings in the kingdom, even in the capital itself.

New Circus in the Barn-field.

In digging a drain behind these buildings the labourers discovered a bath, which was supplied with water from a neighbouring spring; this bath was of an angular shape, built with grey bricks, very hard burnt, and strongly cemented together; the steps which led down to it were of the same materials: no account could be obtained, or conjecture formed, by whom or at what time this bath was made; but from appearance it did not seem to be of a very ancient date.

A Bath discovered.

This discovery suggested to the architect the utility of erecting a public bath, the want of which had been long complained of; and accordingly, on this spot, abounding with fine springs, and being very eligible for the purpose, a handsome and very commodious one is now erected, with every conveniency for the inhabitants.

This parish, although it has decreased in population,* has been greatly improved, and is still improving in its buildings, which seems a paradox, yet it is easily accounted for; the old cottages which have been taken down were very numerous, and lodged a great number of weavers and other poor manufacturers, who, for the sake of easy rents, crowded themselves together; and in the room of several cottages large spacious mansions have

the top or covering stone, and two smaller the ends; in the vacuum of which they deposited the bones, ashes, &c. of the defunct; and often offered sacrifices on the top to their manes: this monument they termed a *Kistvaen*, and the before-mentioned judicious antiquarian had great reason to think that these stones, from their similarity to those which he had seen composing such monuments, were parts of a *Kistvaen;* and that the other stones had been carried off for some particular uses. There is a tradition which is firmly believed by old women, &c. and by them transmitted to their descendants, that a giant of immense bulk and strength was buried in this spot; and as it is well known that fables become blendid with true history in traditions of this kind, there is great probability that these stones marked the spot of interment of some *British Chief;* as it was customary with all the northern nations to describe their ancient leaders and heroes as men of great strength and stature: see the *Edda*, *Ossian*, and *Dr. Piercy's* collection of ancient English poetry.

* The author is credibly informed that, by the late returns, the inhabitants of this parish are reduced in number upwards of five hundred since the year 1780.

CHAP. VI. been erected, which, notwithstanding they make a splendid appearance, do not contain half the number of useful inhabitants; and should this spirit of improvement continue, the poor manufacturers (so necessary to the trade of the city, and to the comforts and conveniences of the rich,) will be greatly distressed for habitations, unless some worthy gentlemen will stand forth in their favour, and erect small convenient cottages, at easy rents, in the back streets, where there is room sufficient.

According to the returns made by order of Government, in the year 1801, there were then in this parish four hundred and seventy-three houses, of which twenty-three were uninhabited; occupied by six hundred and eighty-nine families, containing one thousand and seventy-two males and one thousand six hundred and thirty-five females, in all two thousand seven hundred and seven inhabitants.

St. David. Before I proceed to give an account of the remainder of the parishes within the city walls, I shall describe that of *St. David*, being contiguous to *St. Sidwell's*, and like it a daughter church dependant on that of *Heavitree*, whose Vicar appoints the Curate of the parish, which is of large extent, being nearly two miles in length, comprising within its bounds great part of the county of the city of *Exeter*.

The church, which is situated on the summit of a hill, (called in ancient records *St. David's Dune**) is small and irregular, consisting of a nave and one aisle, without a chancel; the communion table being situated in the eastern angle of the nave. The whole of the building is remarkably low, as is the tower, which is square, containing four small untunable bells; the church is light, well seated, and kept in good repair. The present edifice cannot lay claim to great antiquity, as it was built in the fifteenth century. The ancient church (or parochial chapel, dedicated to *St. Clement*) was situate at the bottom of the hill, in a meadow, washed by the river, which being subject to floods, and incommodious to the parishioners, they erected the present church: of this ancient chapel, which was probably erected during the *Saxon* era, and is mentioned in doomsday-book, there is not the least vestige remaining, except in the name of the meadow, which is called *Chapel Meadow;*† as is the lane leading to it called *Chapel-lane*.

Situation of the ancient church.

In the present church is a commodious gallery; the pulpit is neat, and similar to that in *St. Sidwell's;* it seems to be the workmanship of the same artist: around the church is a small

* So termed from the *British*, *dunum*, signifying a hill or elevated situation.

† This meadow has long since been alienated from the parish, and is now the property, by gift, of the parish of *St. Petrock*, in this city.

cemetery, which was enlarged in the year 1800, and the additional part consecrated by *Bishop Courtenay*, in the following year.

Against the north wall is a mural monument, painted and gilt, to the memory of *Sir Thomas Gifford*,—"*equitis aurati hujus civitatis iterum prætoris*,"—who died in 1703. According to tradition this *Mr. Gifford* was knighted for his ingenuity in dying a piece of cloth scarlet on one side and blue on the other, which he presented to King *James* II.: he built *Great Duryard-house*, where he died.

In an obscure corner of the yard, behind the church, is interred the body of the late *Dr. Glass*, of *Exeter*, whose professional skill, eminent learning, and amiable disposition, justly acquired the esteem of all his numerous acquaintance; on the covering stone of his plain tomb is this short memorial:—

Thomas Glass, M. D. *who died on the 5th of February*, 1786, *in the 76th year of his age.*

Thomas Tooker, Brewer, of this city, bequeathed an annuity of twenty shillings yearly, to be for ever distributed to the poor of this parish.*

John Jordan, *Gent.* of *Millbrook*, by will, gave the sum of £100 to the Churchwardens and Overseers of the poor of this parish, to be by them vested in the public funds; the interest of which to be laid out in bread, and distributed by them and their successors twice every year, viz: one half on *December* the 25th, and the other half on *June* the 2nd, from year to year, for ever, to such poor people (inhabitants of the parish) as they shall think fit and proper objects; the first interest was received in 1768.

St. David's Hill.

The street termed *St. David's Hill* has many good houses, pleasantly situated in an healthy air, and commanding an extensive prospect of the surrounding country; this hill terminates on the south-west side, in a lofty abrupt cliff, that overhangs the river: this cliff is near one hundred feet high, and beneath it are two strong stone weirs, which turn the river into different leats, on which is situated the engine that supplies the city with water, many fulling, grist, and other mills, dye-houses, &c. a great accommodation to woollen and other manufacturers; the walk between the river and leat is not above six feet in breadth, and when the river is swelled by floods is awfully grand; the great expanse of water foaming over the weirs on the left hand, the lofty cliff, clothed with wood, (which is only separated from you by the leat) on the right, and the beautiful prospect in front of the bason of the river, with the

Head Weir.

* See benefactions to the parish of St. Sidwell, &c.

CHAP. VI.

adjoining meadows, excite a sensation in strangers that cannot be described.*

Duryard. *Duryard* is the name of several houses and estates in this parish, which name was probably derived from the *British, dwr* (water,) as they are situate at no great distance from the river, and there can be no doubt but that the course of the ancient channel was much nearer than at present; the largest of those houses is an elegant villa, on an elevated situation, surrounded with pleasure grounds, and well wooded; it was erected by the before-mentioned *Sir Thomas Gifford, Knight;* and is now the property of *Richard Cross, Esq.*

Duryard Mills. Near this house were formerly mills, supplied with water by a leat, cut from the river above *Cowley Bridge;* these mills were erected before 1463, as appears from an ordinance made by the Mayor and Common Council in that year, to compel all Bakers (residing in the city) to grind their wheat at the city mills, viz: *Duryard* and *Cricklepit:* these mills have long been neglected, and thus fell to ruin; but a manufactory has been lately erected on their site for spinning woollen yarn by machinery.

Middle Duryard. The next adjoining estate is called *Middle Duryard;* it consists of a small neat brick house, with a fine estate, well wooded, belonging to it, and is now the property of *Mrs. Cross,* widow of *George Cross, Esq.* who resides in it.

Little Duryard. *Little Duryard* adjoins this, on which has lately been built a neat villa, and great improvements made to the estate belonging to it.

Duryard Lodge. Nearer the city, on a very elevated situation, is *Duryard Lodge;* this house enjoys a fine prospect, with large plantations of trees behind it, which screen it from the north-east winds; it was built by *Phineas Cheeke, Esq.* a native of this city, who long enjoyed a lucrative place in the stamp office, *London;* from which circumstance it obtained the name (by which it is vulgarly called) of *Mount Stamp.*

Belle Vue. Above *Great Duryard,* on the side of *Stoke Hill,* is *Belle Vue,* a pretty villa, in a delightful situation; it was originally a small farm house, and modernized into its present state by its owner, *Richard Cross, Esq.* †

* Several remains of antiquities have been discovered in digging on part of this cliff, such as bones of oxen and other beasts, broken potsherds, and a brazen lamp, with a crescent described on it; from which some have conjectured that here stood a temple of the goddess *Diana.*

† In a field adjoining this house, (about a furlong from the camp already described) are two moor-stones, standing erect, about sixty paces from each other; they appear to have been hewn to an inclining plane, and are five feet ten inches in height, above ground, and deeply sunk into the earth. In a field

Northernhay.

The justly admired terrace walk of *Northernhay* is in this parish; it is of a circular figure, and extends almost round one quarter of the city, from the site of the East to the North gate; it was anciently a counterscarp to the Castle, and is planted with lofty elms, well gravelled, and kept in repair by the Chamber; it is much resorted to for the benefit of its fine air and agreeable shade; many seats are erected on it for the use of valetudinarians; it is bordered on one side by the remains of the Castle, and the back front of the new County Court, (from the latter of which it is separated by iron palisades;) and on the other side by a deep declivity of great height, planted with elms; on this walk are two neat houses, one contiguous to the city walls, the property of *Captain Bailey*, Paymaster of the North Devon Regiment of Militia, and the other on the mount opposite, (anciently termed *Gallants' Bower)* the property and residence of *Warwick Hele Tonkin, Esq.* Recorder of *Plymouth.**

Atwill's Alms-houses.

At the lower end of this walk there are twelve alms-houses, erected by the Chamber, from a charity left by *Lawrence Atwill, Esq.* which had for many years been sequestered, and the estates leased out to private individuals; this *Mr. Atwill* was a Skinner, and Citizen of *London*, born in this city of respectable parents, his grandfather having served the office of Mayor five several times, in the reigns of four Kings of *England*, † namely, *Edward* IV. and V. *Richard* III. and *Henry* VII. three of whom visited the city during his magistracy.

In the former part of his life *Mr. Atwill* was very unsuccessful, and met with great losses at sea; but in the end providence so blessed his endeavours that he acquired great riches; but having no issue he bequeathed the chief part of his fortune to charitable uses, as appears by his will, dated November 6th,

adjoining this, about one hundred and twenty paces distant, is a similar stone; these stones are erected in a direct line, nearly north and south: on what occasion they were set up in this place cannot at present be surmised, as it is not probable they were boundary stones, to denote the limits of either parish or county, being far within the limits of the county of *Exeter* and parish of *St. David;* therefore it must be left to better antiquarians to determine. It is well known that the ancient Britons often erected monuments of this kind.

* From these houses the walk is continued down the hill towards North-gate-street, between two rows of lofty elms, whose tops meeting form a pointed arch, which has a pleasing effect; and without doubt, from similar scenery, our ancestors borrowed their ideas of saracenic architecture.

† "He saw five princes which the sceptre bore,
Of these he was a magistrate to four."—*Dr. Vilvayne.*

CHAP. VI. 1588, wherein he left, in trust, to *Thomas Spicer, Esq.* (then one of the Aldermen) and by him to be conveyed to the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. several estates in the parishes of *St. Thomas the Apostle, Whitstone,* and *Uffculm,* in the county of *Devon,* the high rents of which amounted at that time to £11 7*s.* 5*d.* per annum, with the other profits and income arising from the said estates, to be accumulated into a perpetual fund or stock of money, which by the Mayor and Aldermen should be applied in the best manner possible to keep the poor of the said city employed in some useful work from time to time; the stock nevertheless not to be decreased, but increased if necessary, out of the said lands, &c. for ever.*

Hurst's Almshouses.

At the east end of *Northernhay* are six small houses, each containing two rooms, with a small garden behind, built for twelve poor tradesmen of this city, by *William Hurst, Esq.* who endowed the same with lands sufficient for allowing each poor inhabitant yearly twenty shillings, to be paid to them quarterly, appointing the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. Trustees thereof, as appears by his deed, dated the 13th of October, 1567.

John Lant, Esq. (sometime Mayor) by his will, dated July the 9th, 1614, gave towards their better support £100, for the purchase of land; the rents and profits of which were to be solely applied to their use for ever. In the front of these houses is the following inscription:—

Built and endowed A. D. 1568, *by* William Hurst, Esq. *who had been five times Mayor of this city.*

London Inn.

Opposite these houses is the *London* (formerly the *Oxford) Inn,* lately re-built by *Mr. John Land.* It is large, elegantly furnished, and has every accommodation for families of the first distinction.

Southernhay.

Part of *Southernhay,* anciently *Crolldítch,* is in this parish, where there is now erecting an elegant pile of buildings, called *Southernhay Place,* to consist of thirty-six houses, twelve of which are already finished and inhabited; these houses are built in an airy healthy situation, with convenient avenues to any part of the city, by which they have an easy access to the markets; the large area in front is to be levelled, and surrounded with iron palisades, which will form pleasant walks for the occupiers of the houses.

The Cavalry Barracks and new County Goal are both situate in this parish, but as they have been described in the historical part no farther description need be given, except an account of the benefactions left by some pious christians for the relief of

* See list of benefactions in the latter part of this chapter.

the unhappy prisoners confined in the old Goal, which it is to be hoped are continued to the present.

Griffith Ameredith, (sometime Mayor) considering that the decent burial of the dead was not the least office of christian charity, (though people of former ages little regarded it) and that though many persons justly suffered death for their offences, yet, being moved with pity to see their naked bodies interred, gave by will, dated August the 3rd, 1561, all his lands, tenements, and possessions, lying in *Sidbury*, in the county of *Devon*, for and towards purchasing coffins for every malefactor who should be executed from the county or city Goal.

Edward Ameredith, his son and heir, desirous that his father's will should be duly executed, did, by his deed poll, dated April the 9th, 1562, give and grant to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of *Exeter*, and to their successors, for ever, all those his messuages, lands, rents, reversions, &c. with their appurtenances, for the purpose aforesaid.

William Paramore, Merchant, late of *Exeter*, by will, February the 22nd, 1570, bequeathed to the needy prisoners in the King's Gaol, near the Castle of *Exeter*, ten shillings yearly, for ever, to be paid by his heirs, out of his lands in *Cook Row*,* in the said city, late in the several possessions of *George Pyle*, Merchant, *John Lavers*, Goldsmith, and *John Madocke*, Haberdasher.

Elizabeth Seldon, widow of *Lawrence Seldon*, *Esq.*† bequeathed sixpence weekly, for ever, to be distributed among the poor prisoners in this Gaol.‡

Mrs. Joan Tuckfield, widow and relict of *John Tuckfield*, *Esq.* sometime Mayor of this city, by her will, dated June the 14th, 1568, among other acts of charity, granted and gave to the Corporation of Tailors, in this city, her lands in the parish of *St. Paul*, on condition of their performing such charitable acts mentioned in the said will; one of which was that they distribute yearly, for ever, among the poor prisoners confined in the Gaol, near the Castle, two shillings, at Midsummer, and also keep in constant repair the walls, or inclosure, doors, and locks of a piece of ground appropriated, at her expence, to the burial of malefactors executed at the adjoining gallows, at *Ringswell*, near *Exeter:* (previous to this they were interred in the common highway.) In case of failure the Mayor, Bailiffs,

* *Cook Row*, i. e. the upper end of *South-gate-street*, from the *Little Style* to the corner of *High-street*.

† See parish of St. Lawrence.

‡ See *Rights of the Freemen of Exeter*, page 142.

CHAP. VI. and Commonalty of this city are empowered to enter and enjoy the lands for the uses mentioned.

Edward Young, D. D. (sometime Dean of this Cathedral) by his will, dated June the 6th, 1663, devised as follows, viz: that his executor lay out £250, within the space of two years after the death of the testator, towards purchasing a rent-charge, or other land in fee-simple, (the rent thereof to amount to £12 a year) for different charitable purposes. One of which was, that twenty shillings out of the said rent or income be annually distributed to the poor prisoners in the King's Goal, near the Castle, on the 29th of May, for ever.

Near the site of the ancient North-gate, at the *Falcon Inn*, is a cold bath, supplied by a fine spring that issues from under the city walls. This bath is much frequented by the female Jews.

Ancient barrow, called Danes' Castle.

In a field near the new Goal is an ancient mound or barrow, of a circular form, with a concavity in its centre. It appears to have been formerly trenched round, part of the trench still remaining; it is vulgarly called *Danes' Castle;* but it is evident, from the smallness of the inclosure, and its concave form, that it was never designed for a fortification, not being capable of containing more than one hundred men; nor is there any remaining vestige of contiguous works. Notwithstanding the tradition that it was a fortification of the *Danes*, there is more probability that it was designed for a *Tumulus;* but whether it owes its construction to the *Britons*, *Danes*, or *Saxons*, is at this distance of time uncertain, this kind of *Tumuli* being common to all the northern nations, by whom they were erected over the graves of Kings, or persons of note slain in battle, every soldier bringing his helmet or morion full of earth or stones, by which means those enormous mounds were easily constructed. *

* Barrows of this construction are very common, and owe their origin to very early ages; most authors agreeing that in the concave bason (if it might be so called) they annually offered sacrifices, and their bards sung the virtuous and heroic actions of the defunct; others (and those of no mean note) think that those concave mounds were designed as beacons, they being generally constructed on the most elevated spots, (which is the case of this) and that they lighted fires in the centre, which the surrounding graff prevented from being dispersed by the wind, and by that means gave signal of the descent or approach of an enemy. From the centre of this barrow there is a drain cut through the mound, evidently for the purpose of discharging the rain water, which otherwise would pond it, and make a stagnant pool. This barrow, in its mutilated state, is one hundred feet in diameter, and the graff sixteen feet in height, in its most perfect part. Tradition informs us that the field in which it is situated was the site of a *Danish* camp, in one of their frequent sieges of this city; which, although no intrenchments are now visible, seems very probable, its elevated situation commanding the Castle, from which it is separated by a deep ravine, and naturally fortified on the other side by one much deeper and wider, and which has evident signs of having once been an impassable morass, effectually securing it from any attempt on that quarter.

In the year 1800 there were in this parish three hundred and thirty-two houses, nineteen uninhabited, containing four hundred and forty-three families, consisting of eight hundred and four males and one thousand and fifty females; total one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four inhabitants.

St. Paul.

Adjoining the parish of *St. David* is that of *St. Paul*, wholly situate within the city walls. The ancient church was dark, mean, and in a ruinous state; and the present one was erected on its site about the latter end of the seventeenth century: it is a handsome edifice, consisting of a nave and large gallery; it is very neat withinside, well seated, and full lighted, and has a marble font. The tower, under which is the principal entrance, is square, and ornamented with a dial, a handsome niche, and festoons of flowers; the tower contains a clock and one bell, and on its summit is a small spire, supporting a gilt weather-cock. The Architect grossly deceived the parishioners, by imposing upon them a soft sandy stone, which is greatly decayed; and though erected only about one hundred and twenty years since, appears in a ruinous state, especially the cornice and ornaments in front, the side next the street having been lately repaired. At what time a religious edifice was first erected on this spot we have no memorial; but in the year 1222 it was made parochial, and is now a rectory, in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, valued in the King's books at £8 2*s.* 6*d.* per annum, certified value £25: present rector the *Rev. John Leigh.*

In this church are the following monuments: near the altar, on the north wall, is a large white marble monument, embellished with angels, holding the magisterial fasces, a broken column, and other decorations; in the centre of which, on a black marble tablet, is inscribed:—

Ob Honorem Viri nobilissimi Edvardi Seaward, *Equitis, qui Patre* Johanne Seaward, *Danmonio e curia Clistensi, Divi Georgii, Generosa ibidem natus* v. *Calend. Novemb. Anno* MDCXXXIV. *post Christum* MDCCIII. *Kal. Mart. diem Obiit supremum. Uxorem* Hannam Nicolai Brokingg *hujus Loci civis, gentem habentis filiam duxit, ex qua nati sunt* Nicolaus, Edvardus, Johannes *et* Hanna, *quibus Omnibus patrem Deus superstitem esse voluit. Summo magistratui in civitate nostra præfuerat, ab Eadem delectus in regni senatum nostrorum militum Tribunus, et primus summa liberalitate ab se donato præfectos, quos omnes honoris gradus rite & Pervigili administratione, laude cumulatus tenuit & Implevit. Excellebat abstinentia, erat moribus, vitaque sanctissimus & tanta munificentia ac pietate, ut tanquam si id sibi Negotii crederet solum dari, bonitatem & humanitatem, Ejus erga se quam plurimos sentire indigentes egregie. Sed quantum potuit, occulte sine teste, sine ullo Conscio studuerit.*

CHAP. VI. *Hinc multos illos, quos in hac Urbe habitavit annos, magna autoritas apud Cives, nobili nomen, laus omnium bonorum Maxima.*

A grave-stone near this monument has this inscription :—

Here lyeth the body of Sir Edward Seaward, Knight, *Alderman, and sometime Mayor of this city, who departed this life on the* 1*st day of March,* 1703, *in the* 70*th year of his age. And also the bodys of* Nicholas, Edward, John, *and* Hannah, *children of the said* Sir Edward Seaward. *Also here lyeth the* Lady Hannah Seaward, *relict of the said* Sir Edward Seaward, *who departed this life the* 23*rd of July,* 1712, *in the* 71*st year of her age.*

On the left side of the altar is a neat monument of black and white marble, in memory of *Anne,* relict of *John Gilbert, Esq.* of *Compton,* in the parish of *Marldon,* and daughter of *Richard Courtenay, Esq.* who died in 1775; and in memory also of *Mary,* relict of *Pomeroy Gilbert, Esq.* son of the aforesaid *John* and *Anne,* daughter of *Admiral Williams,* who died in 1786.

On the north wall is a plain oval white marble tablet, erected to the memory of *Jurgen Hachmeester, Gent.* who departed this life in 1762. *He was a sincere christian, lived justly esteemed, and died greatly lamented by his friends.*

Against the south wall is a small plain white marble tablet, erected to the memory of *Richard Langdon, B. M.* (sometime Organist of *Exeter Cathedral,)* who died the 2nd September, 1803, aged 74.

On the right side of the altar is a neat monument of white marble, in the form of a Roman altar, over which is a female figure, mourning by a mausoleum shown on the back ground, consisting of a pyramid, with five urns. In the front of the altar is the following inscription :—

Sacred to the memory
of John Codrington, Esq. *of this city,*
who died January X, MDCCCI. *aged* LXX.
Of Mary *his wife,*
who died December XVII, MDCCXCV, *aged* LX.
And of Samuel *and* Sarah, *their son and daughter,*
who died in the bloom of youth,
while hope illumined every scene,
and embellished future prospects with delusive expectations
of prosperity and happiness.
Maria,
wife of Bartholomew Parr, *of this city,* M. D.
the only remaining child and sister,
had with deep regret directed this monument to be raised,
as a testimony of her affection and grief,
but before its completion

was herself consigned to the same tomb,
at the early age of XXXIII *years,*
An. MDCCCIII.

This neat monument was executed by *Mr. John Kendall,* Statuary, of this city.

Adjoining the church is a small burying ground, probably part of the site of the ancient edifice, omitted in the present building for the sake of its retaining a regular figure.

Benefactions to the parish of *St. Paul:*—

Elizabeth Buckenam, widow, bequeathed 13*s.* 4*d.* yearly, to be divided among five poor householders of this parish, quarterly, viz: eight pence to each.*

Mr. John Pillet, Surgeon, bequeathed £25, the interest of which he willed should be given to the poor of this parish, in twopenny loaves, at Christmas, Easter, and Michaelmas eves, by the Minister and Churchwardens, for ever.

Mrs. Mary Pillet, widow of the above, bequeathed to *Mr. John Codrington* and *Mr. James Grant* £20, the interest of which she ordained should be distributed in shirts and shifts yearly, at Christmas, to such poor people of this parish as they should think fit, for ever.

Henry Gandy, Esq. (twice Mayor of this city) by his last will bequeathed a tenement, situate in the parish of *St. Sidwell,* then of the yearly value of £16, to the Governors of *St. John's Hospital,* for the maintenance of two boys within the said Hospital, which said boys are to be inhabitants of this parish, and to be taken out of the poor of this parish for ever.

Mr. Paul Phillips bequeathed an annuity of twenty shillings, to be distributed to three poor men, and three poor women, inhabitants of this parish, in shirts and shifts, on every Easter Monday. He also bequeathed forty shillings to the then Warden, the interest of which he ordered should be for ever applied to defray the expences of making the said shirts and shifts.

Mr. John Yorke bequeathed, by will, an annuity of thirty shillings yearly, issuing out of a garden in the parish of *St. David,* to be distributed by the Wardens to twelve poor people of this parish, who have no parochial relief.

Thomas Binford, Esq. bequeathed an annuity of £3, issuing out of an estate in the parish of *St. Sidwell,* to be expended in wheat, and made into loaves, which said loaves are to be distributed to the poor of this parish on every Christmas-eve for ever.

Flaye's alms-houses.

Nearly adjoining *St. Paul's* church are *Flaye's* alms-houses. These alms-houses were erected according to the will of *Thomas*

* See parish of St. Lawrence.

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Flaye, Esq. Alderman, (and sometime Mayor of this city) who, on the 26th of June, 1634, devised to *Elizabeth* his wife and executrix, divers lands and tenements in the parishes of *St. Paul, St. Sidwell,* and *St. David,* in this city, to the intent that she should erect, within six years after his decease, upon part of the said land in *St. Paul's* parish, four convenient alms-houses, with four gardens adjoining, to be called *Flaye's* alms-houses, for four poor widows, to be at first placed in by his said wife, and after her decease by the Mayor and Aldermen for the time being, or the greater number of them; and after the erection of the said houses, the said *Elizabeth Flaye,* her heirs and assigns, should for ever pay out of the rents and profits of the said lands, to every one of the said widows, twelve pence, weekly, and the residue or overplus of the said rents should be appropriated towards the reparation and maintenance of the said alms-houses for ever: which said trust this charitable lady faithfully performed, and out of her own bounty added to her said husband's endowment one shilling more to each weekly; she also erected two more houses in the garden behind, appropriating them for the habitations of two poor Clergymen and their wives, (who should be destitute of better habitations) or for the widows or relicts of such, endowing each of them with four shillings weekly, for ever; and appointed the eastern part of the garden to their use.

Over the entrance are the founder's arms, impaled with those of his wife, with an inscription alluding to the foundation; over them is a winged hour-glass, with other emblems of mortality, and the date of their erection, carved on a stone table; over the inner entrance is another inscription.

Tailors' Hall.

Adjoining these alms-houses is the *Tailors' Hall,* consisting of a convenient dwelling-house, with a handsome hall for their meetings, the gift of *Mrs. Joan Tuckfield,* widow of *John Tuckfield, Esq.* (sometime Mayor of this city) who, by her will, dated the 14th of June, 1568, bequeathed to the Corporation of Tailors within this city all her land in the parish of *St. Paul,* on condition that they bestowed yearly, for ever, at the Feast of Easter, out of the profits of the said land, six shillings and eight pence, viz: to the Ten Cells one shilling and eight pence, to the poor prisoners in the Goal, near the Castle two shillings, and to the prisoners in South-gate one shilling and four pence, and to repair the walls, with the doors and locks, around a piece of ground at *Ringswell,* which she had caused to be inclosed for the interment of the malefactors there executed.

Joan Cleveland, (late servant to the said *Mrs. Tuckfield)* by her last will, dated the 24th of May, 1599, bequeathed to the Mayor and Chamber £20 yearly, for ten years, until the

sum amounted to £200, which money she devised to be lent unto ten poor artificers from year to year, they giving good security for the repayment of the same; and that £100 of the said money should be so lent to five poor Tailors (freemen of the said corporation) without interest.

Ancient Bridewell.

The ancient city Bridewell stood in Goldsmith-street, in this parish; but the site is now alienated from the Chamber, and no vestiges of the old building are remaining.

City almshouses.

On the city walls, near the site of the North-gate, the Chamber, in the year 1763, erected twelve Alms-houses for poor decayed freemen, and endowed the same with 2*s.* 6*d.* each almsman weekly.

Staff-bearers' houses.

Adjoining these are three more small houses, built by the Chamber, for the habitations of three of the Staff-bearers or Scavengers.*

King Athelstan's Palace.

Near the church was an ancient edifice, built of hewn stone, consisting of circular stone staircases, leading to many small vaulted rooms: this building, according to tradition, was once the habitation of King *Athelstan*, termed by the vulgar King *Addlestone's* palace: it was taken down some years since, and modern buildings erected on its site, particularly large and commodious wine vaults, the property of *Edmund Granger, Esq.*

According to the late returns there were in the parish of *St. Paul* one hundred and eighty-nine inhabited and ten uninhabited houses, containing two hundred and sixty-nine families, in which were four hundred and ninety-two males and six hundred and six females, in all one thousand and ninety-eight inhabitants.

St. Kerian.

More towards the centre of the city is the small parish of *St. Kerian.* The church is dedicated to an obsolete Irish Saint, (also called, in Cornwall, *St. Piran,* who came into that county about the year 460, where he died, and was buried at *Bodmin.)* It is dark and gloomy, and from its not being used for divine service little attention is paid to its interior part; the tower, which is over the entrance, is low, and contains one bell and a clock, with a dial fronting the street. This church bears evident marks of antiquity, but the era of its erection is not known; nor is their any mention made of it until the year 1222, when it was made parochial; and probably at that period, from the superstition of the times, afforded a tolerable subsistence to a massing Priest; but since the Reformation it has been usually held with that of *St. Petrock;* it is a rectory, in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, and is valued in the King's books at £5 18*s.* 6½*d.* per annum, certified value £16.

* The eldest of the Staff-bearers has his residence in the city Bridewell, in *Paris-street,* he being the Marshal or Keeper of it.

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In this church there is a mural monument, in a dilapidated state, on the base of which is an excellent carving, in bass-relief, representing the resurrection, at the day of judgment; the inscription informs us that it was erected to the memory of *Jonathan Ivie*, who died March the 14th, 1717; also *Elizabeth Ivie*.

Ancient building in Waterbeer-street.

In *Waterbeer-street*, in this parish, lately stood a very ancient building; it originally consisted of three semicircular arches, supporting an angular front, with an arched window in the centre: those arches or gateways led into a spacious hall, which (according to tradition) was the *Prætorium* or Town-hall; while some respectable antiquarians judge it to be the remains of a religious edifice;* but this does not seem probable from the structure of the building, it having no remains of a vaulted roof, neither had it any of those grotesque embellishments so common in the religious edifices of our *Saxon* ancestors; from its ruinous state it was of necessity taken down in the year 1803, and capacious warehouses erected on its site, by *Mr. Kingdon*, Ironmonger, of this city.

Boys' charity schools.

Adjoining is a large ancient roomy house, bequeathed to the charity schools, and now appropriated as habitations for the two Schoolmasters, with school-rooms for the boys.

According to the late returns there were in this small parish forty-two houses, of which four were uninhabited, containing fifty-eight families, the number of males one hundred and four, females one hundred and twenty-six, in all two hundred and thirty inhabitants.

St. Petrock.

Contiguous to *St. Kerian* is the parish of *St. Petrock*.† The church is an irregular building, which appears to have been erected at different periods, and is so obscurely situated, and

* The learned *Dr. Ducarel* is of opinion that it was a religious edifice; and the first stone building erected in this city, the churches of the Britons being composed of wattles. On its demolition nothing was discovered to strengthen this conjecture; the back part appeared to be designed for a prison, under which were strong stone walls, surrounding a square vault, (in which were a privy and sewer) probably a dungeon. The only remains of antiquity discovered were several *Roman* coins, in good preservation, particularly one of *Constantius*, having on its exergue a column of trophies, at the foot of which were two captives chained in a sitting posture; and a brass coin, on which, within a lozenge, were four flowers-de-luce, and on its exergue a ship with a large ensign,—the only part of the inscription legible is the word *hanse*, in ancient characters; also a groat of *Henry* VIII. of silver, much debased.

† This *Petrocus* lived a religious life in *Cornwall*, where he was much famed for his sanctity; and after his death he was admitted into the *British* calendar: he gave name to *Padstow*, (anciently written *Petrockstow*) where he resided and died. *Leland* says, in his time his tomb and shrine were still remaining in the church there.—*Cambden*, page 11.

surrounded by houses, that scarce any part of it can be seen, except the tower, which is octagonal and small, with a spire and vane; in this tower are six small musical bells, and a clock, with a double fronted dial that projects over the houses; this clock has a set of chimes, which plays part of the 137th Psalm, at the hours of four, eight, and twelve; there are two narrow entrances into the church, one from the *High-street* and the other from *St. Peter's-yard;* it is kept in good repair, and neatly seated, and was made parochial in 1222; it is now a rectory, in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, valued in the King's books at £14 10*s.* 2½*d.* certified value £16 per annum. Rector, *Rev. Wm. Oxnam, A. M.*

The following monuments are the only ones deserving notice in this church:—

Fixed against the north wall is a very large and heavy stone mausoleum, on which are two busts, erected to the memory of *William Hooper*, Merchant, of this city, and *Maria* his wife, who died in 1682.

Near this is a small mural monument to the memory of *Francis* and *Alexander Worth*, sons of *Henry Worth, Esq.* of *Worth*, in the county of *Devon; Francis* was a member of the Common Council of this city, who died in 1675; *Alexander* died in 1680. There are two other small mural monuments fixed against the same wall, with mutilated inscriptions, not worth remarking.

The whole of the ground round this church (now crowded with houses) appears to have been a cemetery, great numbers of human bones having been discovered in digging for the foundations of houses. Near the church, under the house now occupied by *Mr. George Cox*, is a cellar, which, from its arched stone groins, has occasioned conjectures that it was originally the crypt of an ancient chapel; and at a small distance west of the church is a stone front of very ancient architecture and excellent masonry, beautifully disposed in panels of gothic fretwork, surmounted with stone battlements, on which a more modern and inelegant attic story has been raised. This fine specimen of ancient architecture is now so obscured by buildings that it cannot be seen to any advantage, except from the narrow back court of the Globe Tavern, though it is evident it was originally open to the churchyard.

At the corner of *North-gate-street* was a very ancient house, lately rebuilt by *Mr. Thomas Floud.* This house is one of the original corners of the *Carfoix*, (which was of much greater extent than at present;) and from the simplicity of its architecture appeared to have been erected in some part of the thirteenth century; it was constructed of wood, the stories jutting over each other as they rose upward, with a battlemented

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roof, on which an attic story had been raised in after ages. The only remains of this ancient structure is a statue of *St. Peter*, large as life, treading on another figure representing paganism; this statue is of wood, well executed, in a crouching posture, supporting the angle of the house, (its original situation) holding in its right hand a gothic church, and in its left a book open; and on the fourth and fifth fingers hung the usual emblems, two keys, but these are now broken off.

Ancient Statue of St. Peter.

Banking houses.

Near *Broad-gate* in this parish are two public banking-houses, adjoining each other, the first established of which is the *Devonshire Bank*, under the firm of *Barings, Short*, and *Collyns;* the other is termed the *City Bank*, at present the firm is *Milford, Nation*, and *Co.*

By the last returns there were forty-six houses in this parish, two of which were uninhabited, containing fifty-four families, in which were one hundred and thirty-two males and one hundred and fifty-five females, in all two hundred and eighty-seven inhabitants.

St. Mary Major.

The parish of *St. Mary Major* joins the last described parish. The church, in order to distinguish it from others of the same dedication, has had various adjunct appellations, being called in ancient writings *St. Mary Michael*,* *St. Mary the Moor*, and *St. Mary Major*. It is an ancient edifice, but from the style of the building the present church does not appear to be the original religious structure erected on this spot, it being of *Norman* construction; whereas mention is made of it during the *Saxon* epoch, it being appropriated for holding the Archdeaconry Court of *Exeter*, on the removal of the See from *Crediton*, and the said court is still held in it. In the year 1222 it is recorded as one of the parish churches then in this city: it is built in the *Saxon* manner, consisting of a nave only, without any supporting columns, with pointed arched windows. At the east end, through a lofty gothic arch, it opens into a large chancel, which is of a different construction, and appears of a more ancient date than the body of the church; it has a separate entrance from the yard, and over the north window is a small tablet, representing *St. Lawrence* in a state of martyrdom on a gridiron; and on the angles of this and the other windows cherubims supporting gridirons are represented in bass-relievo;† opposite the entrance into the chancel is a small vaulted room, now used as a vestry.

* From the Anglo-Saxon, *micel*, signifying *much;* whence the Scotch, *mickle.*

† Tradition informs us that this chancel was a chapel, dedicated to *St. Lawrence*, unconnected with the church; and the vestry the cell or habitation of the officiating priest, which, from the singular embellishments of the windows, and their non-similarity with those of the church, carries some air of probability with it.

Tower of St. Mary Major.

The tower, which is situate at the west end of the church, is of a singular construction, and has more the appearance of the keep of an ancient Castle than of a campanile or bell tower; it is evidently a *Saxon* building, and of more ancient date than the church; in its original state it was of greater height than at present; for about the year 1768, a survey being taken of it, the uppermost part was found decayed, and in danger of falling, greatly overhanging the base; therefore thirty-five feet of it were taken down, and an ill-constructed cupola erected in its place. On the south and west angles are two strong projecting circular staircases, which lead to its summit; and the other two angles are strengthened by vast buttresses: the original entrance into this building was through a semicircular arched gateway, between the projecting staircases, and over it is a large semicircular arch, in the middle of which is a small window; and on the buttress, in the north angle, is an antique niche or recess, surrounded by a plain band or moulding: for what purpose this recess was intended cannot be conjectured; its situation in the buttress proves it not designed for a window, neither are there any signs of a statue having ever been placed there; this niche is the only embellishment to be seen in this antique fabric. Nor does history or tradition inform us of the original intent of our ancestors in erecting this massy building, and therefore conjecture only can be offered; some are of opinion that it was a pharos, or watch tower; others that it was a fortification, and the dernier resort of the inhabitants in time of war,* for which its strength in those days seems calculated; but these are opinions only: from the construction of the pointed arch, by which a communication is opened from the tower to the church, it seems the work of some ages after its first building. Against the front there was injudiciously erected a dwelling-house, (which, like a veil, shrouded its beauty) and a long brick wall before the church; but these are now taken down, and a battlemented porch, with iron palisades, are substituted in their places. It had in former ages a lofty spire, but that has been removed for upwards of two centuries; also six bells, five of which were sold (to the great regret of many of the parishioners) towards defraying the expences incurred by taking down part of the tower, in the year 1768.

The church is light, kept in good repair, and has a neat well-toned organ, erected in the year 1775, by the voluntary

* See Judges, chap. IX. v. 51.—"But there was a strong tower within the city, and thither fled all the men and women, and all they of the city, and shut it to them, and gat them up to the top of the tower."

CHAP. VI. contributions of the parishioners; the artist was *Mr. Micheau*, of this city: it is a rectory, in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, and valued in the King's books at about 15*l.* 14*s.* 9½*d.* per annum, certified value, 36*l.*: present Rector, *Rev. Walter Kitson, Sen.*

The monumental inscriptions mostly deserving notice are the following:—

On the south wall is a plain tablet, on which are the following acrostic lines:—

M *ade ripe for heaven by God's rich grace,*
A *nd called hence to that blest place;*
R *emoved shee is from parents sight,*
Y *et lives above with Saints in light.*
P *repare, O blessed Lord, my soul,—*
O *n thee I rest, on thee I roll,*
L *onging to be where saints above*
E *ternally enjoy thy love.*
Departed this life, 1676.

Near the entrance into the chancel, on the north wall, is a handsome monument painted and gilt, the pediment supported by two corinthian columns; on an oval black marble tablet, in the centre, is this epitaph:—

M. S. Johannis Webb, *armigeri, qui ex antiqua familia ultimus optimam vitam felicissima morte commutavit anno dom.* M,DC,LXXVI, *Aprilis* 22do *cum* 46tum *ætatis annum unico die excessisset* Johanna *vidua mærens posuit.*

On the north side of the altar is a mural monument of white marble, decorated with angels and other divices neatly executed; in the centre, on an oval tablet, is the following inscription:—

M. S.
Viri Optimi

Nicholai Hele, *doctoris in medicina quam permultos annos scienter et feliciter exercuit. Obiit* 3 *Dec.* MDCXCVI, *ætatis suæ* 62. *Una subjacit* Elizabeth Hele, *uxor tali viro digna. Obiit* xo *die Decem, anno salutis* MDCCXXI, *ano ætatis suæ* 81.

Near the vestry door is a plain tablet, on which is inscribed: *To the memory of* Thomas Tooker, *Brewer, and Sheriff of this city in* 1638. *He died in* 1640. *His only daughter and heiress, Mary, was married to* Henry White, Esq. *of* Henlane, *in the county of* Pembroke.

Near the west entrance is a plain white marble tablet, to the memory of that much lamented and able antiquarian *Mr. William Chapple*, to whose extensive knowledge and amiable conversation latter chorographers are greatly indebted; on it are the following mementos:

Near this place lie buried the children of William *and* Elizabeth Chapple, *of the Close, viz:—* CHAP. VI.

William (1st) born 9th September .	1748.	O. S.
Died 11th February .	1755.	N. S.
John, born 11th October	1751.	O. S.
Died 3rd February .	1755.	N. S.
Elizabeth, born 21st September .	1753.	
Died 7th May . . .	1756.	
William (2nd) born 31st January } Died 20th June . }	1756.	

Talium est Regnum Dei.

Close beside them rests also the above-named *Elizabeth*, their mother, who died the 3rd Oct. 1777, having completed nearly the 30th year of her marriage, and the 60th of her age.

Morte Deo placuit firmum sic solvere nodum:
Pro casta at remanet conjuge fidus amor.

Also *William Chapple*, husband to the said *Elizabeth*, and father to the above-named children, who died September the 1st, 1781, in the 63rd year of his age.

On a wooden tablet, hung in the angle of one of the windows, on the north side of the church, (now removed) were painted the arms of *Petre: gules* on a bend *or*, a cornish chough *proper*, between two cinquefoils *azure*, between two escalops *argent;* and underneath the following lines in black letter:—

Twenty churches can reporte
The goodness of the manne
Who bare those arms in his life,
Through virtue he them wanne:
Of customers I think it meet
He ought to have best prayse,
John Petre, † *so he knowe his name,*
He dyed by Exe, *at* Hayes,
Who by his will and testamente,
The Lord be praysed therefore,
Gave twenty pounds, in yearly rente,
To the poore for evermore:
So that the poore should have some part
Which he was blessed withalle,
God give us grace to do the lyke
When hee us hence shall calle.

† This *John Petre* was sometime the King's Customer for this port; he, by his will, dated 1579, left £20 per annum, issuing out of the sheaf of *Cornworthy*, in the county of *Devon*, to twenty different parishes, (of which this was one) for the preferment of poor maids in marriage; but no parish in this city at present receives any benefit from this donation.

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Benefactions to the poor of this parish:—

Lawrence Seldon, by his last will, dated 8th May, 1598,* bequeathed one shilling weekly to the poor of this parish, to be distributed in bread.

Sir John Ackland, *Knight*, of *Columb-John*, enfeoffed the Chamber of this city with the rectory and sheaf of *Churchstow* and *Kingsbridge*, for divers charitable uses, one of which was, that one shilling weekly should be for ever distributed in bread, to the poor of this parish.†

Thomas Tooker, Brewer, of this parish, besides divers other charities,‡ by will, bequeathed an annuity of twenty shillings yearly, to be divided by the Churchwardens and Overseers respectively, among the most aged poor people of the most honest conversation in this parish, for their better relief, as to them shall be thought most needful.

John Reed, Fuller, of this city, by will, dated the 9th of August, 1680, bequeathed to the poor of this parish an annuity or rent-charge of £2 12*s.* yearly, to be distributed in bread, at the rate of twelve pence weekly.

Gilbert Keate,§ Merchant, late of *London*, and native of this parish, bequeathed to the Mayor and Chamber of this city, (as appears by his will, dated the 12th of August, 1656) £400, in trust, for and towards the maintenance of four poor children, two boys and two girls, to be taken out of this parish, and to be maintained and educated; the boys in *St. John's Hospital*, and the girls in *Hele's Hospital* in this city, and from thence to be bound out apprentices, which said children, during their residence in the said Hospitals, were to wear on the sleeves of their Hospital gowns the initials, G. K.‖

Serge Market.

In the open street, before the *Bear Inn*, is weekly held, on Fridays, the Serge Market, formerly much noticed, and supposed to have been the largest in this kingdom, except that of *Leeds*, in *Yorkshire;* but it has, from various causes, greatly declined of late years.

Anabaptist Meeting-house.

Near this is the *Anabaptist Meeting-house*, very commodious, and frequented by a large and genteel congregation; it is neatly seated, has large galleries, and is kept in good repair; but its situation behind the houses entirely intercepts any exterior view.

* See Parish of St. Lawrence. † Idem.

‡ See parish of St. Sidwell. § See St. John's Hospital.

‖ This charity, in respect of the four children being nominated from this parish, and wearing G. K. on their upper garments, is not performed according to the donor's intention.

At the bottom of *Rock-lane*, in an obscure situation, is a neat well-built Chapel, belonging to the followers of the *Rev. Mr. George Whitfield;* it was built about the year 1772, by its present pastor, *Mr. Tanner*, Shipwright, of this city. Methodist Chapel.

Near *Little Style*, in *South-gate-street*, stood the ancient Shambles; over which was a long open gallery, supported by moor-stone columns, in which was kept the wool and yarn market. At the upper end of the said street, near the *High-street*, is the *General Bank*, under the firm of *Joshua Williams, Robert Cross*, and *Thomas Sparkes*. Old Shambles.

Grendon's Alms-houses, situate in *Preston-street*, in this parish, was founded about 1408, by *Simon Grendon, Esq.* (who had been thrice Mayor of *Exeter*) for the habitation of ten poor women, who, according to the superstition of those times, were bound to celibacy; but widows were not to be excluded provided they entered not into a second marriage, from which circumstance they obtained the name of *Ten Cells;* the said founder also endowed them with several fields, named *Culverlands*, in the parish of *St. Sidwell*, and appointed the Mayor and Commonalty of this city to be trustees of the same, and to have the nomination of the poor women for ever. Since their foundation they have received the following additional benefactions:— Grendon's Alms-houses.

Alice Heyth, widow, by her deed poll, dated May the 18th, 1556, gave to certain feoffees, and their heirs, all her lands, situate in *East* and *West Teignmouth*, or elsewhere, in the county of *Devon*, for the only use and benefit of the poor women in these alms-houses.

David Hensley, Clerk, by his deed, dated October the 8th, 1556, gave to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of this city, and their successors for ever, an annuity or yearly rent charge of twenty shillings, issuing out of certain lands, called *Lamp Lands*, situate in the parish of *Kenn*, in the county of *Devon*, towards the better relief, and for the sole use of the poor inhabitants of these houses for ever.

William Buckenam, Esq. (sometime Mayor) by will, bequeathed a certain sum of money to be appropriated to charitable uses, and appointed *Philip Chichester, Esq.* his executor and trustee thereof, who therewith purchased the moiety of the *Bear Inn*, in *South-gate-street*, which he, by his deed, dated March 6th, 1566, conveyed to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of this city, and their successors for ever, on condition that they do for ever pay and distribute the profits accruing therefrom towards the better support and maintenance of these houses and almswomen. The said *Mr. Chichester* also purchased a high-rent, of ten shillings per annum, issuing out of

CHAP. VI. the said premises, and heretofore paid to the *Priory* of *Plympton*, which he likewise settled on those houses for ever.

William Herne, Clerk, late Rector of *St. Petrock's*, in this city, by deed, dated April 10th, 1562, gave to the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. thereof £168 5*s.* for sundry charitable purposes,* one of which was, that they weekly pay to the poor almswomen in these houses one penny each.

John Haydon, of *Cadhay*, in the parish of *Ottery St. Mary*, by his deed, dated March 6th, 1587, gave and granted to the Chamber of *Exeter* divers lands and leases, to which he added twenty pounds in money, for the relief of the poor for ever; that is to say, at the two feasts of *Easter* and *Christmas*, yearly, they were to pay to the Churchwardens of *Kenn*, in the county of *Devon*, at each of the said feasts, £2 8*s.* to be by them bestowed in bread, and distributed to the most necessitous poor of the said parish; and to the poor of the *Ten Cells* £2 6*s.* 8*d.* viz: to every one of the said poor women therein, 4*s.* 8*d.* yearly, or 1*s.* 2*d.* quarterly.

John Baker, Baker, of this city, by will, dated February 8th, 1603, bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. an annuity or yearly rent of 15*s.* 4*d.* to be for ever issuable out of certain lands in *Swithen-street*, in the parish of *St. Olave*, in the said city, for certain charitable uses, one of which was, that they yearly pay to the poor of the *Ten Cells*, within the city, the sum of 3*s.* 4*d.*

Robert Lant, *Esq.* of *Kingston*, in the county of *Surrey*, a native of this city, and son of *John Lant*, *Esq.* sometime Mayor of *Exeter*, being informed that these houses were in a ruinous state, gave £100 towards their rebuilding, and also endowed them, together with *Bonville's* alms-houses, with lands of inheritance, situate in the parish of *Buckland*, in *Buntish*, in the county of *Dorset*, called *Newhouse Tenement*, of the yearly value of £50. He also ordered that an account should be yearly made of the receipts and disbursements of the said estate, within one month after Michaelmas; and that the Town-Clerk for his trouble in making out the said accounts should receive an annual pension of twenty shillings.

These houses are not built quadrangular, as most of our ancient buildings of this kind are, but in a direct line, each house having an upper and under room, with a small garden behind; they are kept in good repair, and in the front they have a plain portico, or gallery, flagged with Purbeck stone, which runs the whole length of the building, and makes a dry and comfortable communication for the aged inhabitants with each other.

* See St. Catharine's Alms-houses.

Bonville's Alms-houses.

In *Rock-lane*,* in this parish, *Lord William Bonville*, Baron of *Shute*, founded an Alms-house for twelve poor people, to have continuance for ever; and, by will, dated the 18th of April, 1408, gave towards their maintenance seven pence weekly, to be paid out of *Floyer's Hayes*, *Great Lynch*, in *Silverton*, *Cowley Barton*, in *Brampford Speke*, the Manor of *Roughorne*, in *Whitstone*, and divers houses and cellars in *Rock-lane;* but his lordship being afterwards attainted for his adherence to the house of *York*, all the said lands were escheated to the Crown: however the pay to the poor was continued by the King's Receiver-General of the county; and Queen *Elizabeth*, by her letters patent, dated November the 7th, 1562, granted to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of this city, and their successors, that the Mayor and Aldermen, or the major part of them, should have full power and authority to nominate and appoint to all vacancies that might happen in the said Alms-houses, according to the intention of the founder, and that none of her Majesty's officers or successors should interrupt or do any act in hinderance of the same; her Majesty reserving to herself and successors a power, within two months after the death of every one of the said poor, to name and appoint, by her privy signet, one other or others of the poor of the said city unto the said place or places, whenever they shall happen to be void.

John Baker bequeathed an annuity of 3*s.* 4*d.* to the poor of these houses for ever. †

Robert Lant, Esq. was a great benefactor to these houses. ‡

During the unhappy dissensions in the reign of *Charles* I. the stipend, granted to this charity by government, being discontinued they were in consequence thereof neglected by the trustees; and, notwithstanding the said pay was recovered after the Restoration, little attention being paid to them they sunk into a heap of ruins, and, rubbish being continually added, their site formed a lofty mount, commonly termed the *Brick-field*, in which state it continued until the year 1770, when *Colonel Newton* obtained a grant of the land from the Crown, caused it to be levelled, and converted it into a garden.

* At the time of this foundation *Rock-lane* was termed the *Combrew*, that is a row of houses situate in a comb or valley. Nearly opposite these houses stood an ancient chapel, which was pulled down near a century back, by the then owner, who built several tenements with the materials: the superstitious tradition says that no person ever prospered who inhabited them, therefore they were pulled down, and the site converted into a garden.

† See the Ten Cells.

‡ Idem.

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Alms-houses near Quay-gate.

History informs us that there were other Alms-houses in this parish, near *Quay-gate*, but by whom founded is not mentioned; these houses, through the neglect of the trustees, are now dilapidated, and the land alienated, so that their exact site cannot at this time be ascertained. The following is the only endowment belonging to them that has been transmitted to posterity:—

The aforesaid *John Baker** bequeathed an annuity of two shillings per annum to the Alms-houses near *Quay-gate*, to be paid quarterly, in equal portions, for ever.

The *Bear Inn*, in *South-gate-street*, was the site of an ancient Priory, founded by Bishop *William Warlewest;* it was an appendage to the Priory of *Plympton*, whose Prior had sumptuous and convenient lodgings here for his accommodation, whenever he resided in this city. Great part of the old buildings, particularly the chapel, was standing a few years since; they were built with free-stone, of excellent gothic workmanship, decorated with fretwork panels; mutilated inscriptions, and different sculptures were seen, and over the cornice, even with the battlements, was a cabossed statue of a bear, holding a ragged staff between its paws,† (the badge of the ancient Priors of *Plympton.)* This venerable pile of building, being in a ruinous state, was pulled down, and a dwelling-house, offices, &c. erected on the site, by *Mr. Robert Russel.*‡

The opposite corner of *Bear-lane* bears evident marks of antiquity. According to tradition it was a Nunnery, but by whom founded, or when dissolved, there is no mention; probably it was one of those religious houses annexed to the Deanry, at its foundation, by Bishop *Brewer*, as it still continues part of its possessions.

The *Black Lions Inn*, near the same spot, is a very ancient building, and from its appearance seems to have been erected for monastic purposes; it occupies a large spot of ground. In the front, which was a few years since rebuilt, is an antique carving, representing an angel, holding a shield, on which is inscribed the date 1421, in ancient characters.

This parish was formerly very opulent, and contained many respectable clothiers and merchants; but that trade having got

* See the Ten Cells.

† It is supposed that from this statue the Bear Inn received its appellation.

‡ *Mr. Russel* is the principal of a large concern in the waggon business, in which are employed a great number of horses. In 1798, when the French threatened invasion, he offered to assist government with three hundred capital draught horses, and to have them in readiness whenever required.

into other channels, it is now chiefly inhabited by mechanics and labourers: it contained, at the late survey, two hundred and ninety-nine inhabited and eleven uninhabited houses, occupied by five hundred and fifty-two families, in which were nine hundred and thirty-eight males and one thousand one hundred and ninety-seven females, in all two thousand one hundred and thirty-five inhabitants.

Trinity parish.

South of the parish of *St. Mary Major* is that dedicated to the *Holy Trinity*. It is extensive and populous, being partly within, but the greatest part without the city walls. The church is a handsome gothic edifice, kept in good repair, which being situate almost contiguous to the *South-gate* appears at a distance to be part of it: the tower, which projects into the street, contains four small untunable bells, and a clock and dial; this projection greatly narrows the avenue to the gate, which is rendered still worse by an arched building adjoining the tower, once the habitation of the Priest, but now of the Sexton; we have no accounts of the era of the foundation of this church, nor do we find it mentioned before the year 1222, when it was made parochial; it is now in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, valued in the King's books at £11 16*s.* 5½*d.* per annum, certified value £31. The present rector is the *Rev. William Henry Carrington.*

This church consists of a chancel, nave, and one aisle, separated by six clustered pillars, and two galleries.

On the north side of the chancel is a neat monument, erected to the memory of *John Wyse*, Merchant, of this city, who died the 29th of October, 1686. And near the west end of the church is a plain stone tablet to the memory of *Mr. John Carter.*

Benefactions to the poor of the *Holy Trinity*:—

Sir John Ackland,* by will, dated the 14th of September, 1609, bequeathed an annuity of £2 12*s.* yearly, to be weekly distributed in bread to the poor of this parish.

Elizabeth Buckenam,† by will, dated May the 16th, 1567, bequeathed an annuity of 13*s.* 4*d.* yearly, to be distributed to five poor widows, householders of this parish, eight pence each quarterly.

Lawrence Seldon, by deed, dated the 8th of May, 1598,‡ granted to the Chamber of *Exeter* one shilling weekly to be distributed in bread to the poor of this parish for ever.

* See the parishes of St. Lawrence; Allhallows, Goldsmith-street; St. Mary Major; St. Sidwell's; and Allhallows on the Walls.

† See parish of St. Lawrence.

‡ See donations to the parish of St. Sidwell.

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It has already been related that *South-gate* is nearly contiguous to this church.

South-gate.

The gate is a massy building of hewn stone. The entrance from the suburbs is through a lofty pointed arch, flanked by circular towers; over the gateway is a niche, where lately stood a mutilated statue in a magisterial robe; this front is likewise decorated with angels, supporting the royal and city arms; the interior arch of the gateway, from its semicircular form, appears of *Saxon* construction, * and is probably some remains of the ancient gate, the present one being erected in the reign of *Henry* VII.

It has from time immemorial been the common prison, and Sheriff's compter for this city and county, and a worse can hardly be imagined. The felons' prison is on the western side, consisting of three separate ground rooms, two of them appropriated for the men and one for the women; these rooms, from their damp situation and darkness, may not improperly be termed dungeons; † and to add to their miserable state the common sewer and drain from *Southernhay* runs directly under them, into which an opening being made for their own convenience a very noisome smell frequently arises. The debtors' side, though not so bad as the felons, is gloomy and unwholesome, and confinement in it is too severe a punishment for those unhappy objects whose crimes are too often only misfortunes and poverty. ‡ Over the felons' cells is a large room called the *shoe*, from the poor debtors begging the charity of passengers from the barred window, and to receive which they let down an old shoe by a cord: this room served formerly for a chapel, as appears by part of the decalogue, lately remaining, painted on the wall, but at present no clergyman administers spiritual comfort to the afflicted inhabitants. On the tops of

* The learned *Dr. Stuckley* is of opinion that this arch was of Roman construction.

† *Mr. Andrew Brice*, in his description of this prison, facetiously introduces two lines from an old ballad, termed *Lydford Law*, in which he says,

Ten men less room within this cave
Than five mice in a lantern have.

‡ During the latter part of the reign of *Charles* II. the Dissenters were much persecuted; and their Pastors, for not conforming to the established church, were imprisoned; one of them, the *Rev. Mr. Bretland*, a gentleman much respected for his learning and piety, was confined in this place several years, which occasioned his penning the following lines, which were painted and hung up in the hall, where they remained many years:—

This prison is a house of care, no place for man to thrive,
A touchstone for to try a friend, a grave for men alive!

THE ANCIENT SOUTH GATE OF EXETER.

the towers are battlemented leads, which command a fine prospect; here the debtors are sometimes permitted by the gaoler to recreate themselves, and enjoy the blessings of wholesome and free air. The late humane and philanthropic *Mr. Howard*, on an inspection of this prison, declared it to be one of the most unwholesome and dismal places of confinement he had visited during his peregrination. This prison having been several times presented by the Grand Jury as a public nuisance, proposals were made for taking it down, and rebuilding it on a more convenient spot, but this salutary and philanthropic scheme has been abandoned for the present; and only some small additions and alterations on the felons' side, not much to the advantage or relief of the unhappy objects in confinement, have been adopted.

Benefactions to South-gate prison.

There have been several benefactions for the relief of the unhappy objects confined here, by which the debtors (if not too numerous) are nearly supplied with bread; if one only he receives the whole.

Reynold Hayne, by will, dated the twenty-eighth of *Edward* III. A. D. 1354, bequeathed all his lands and tenements, lying in the suburbs of this city, to the cathedral church of *St. Peter*, within the same, for the relief of those imprisoned in the common goal of the said city.

Joan Tuckfield (as before mentioned) bequeathed several houses to the Corporation of Tailors, on condition of their performing several charitable acts: one of which was that they annually distribute, at the feast of Easter, to the poor prisoners confined in South-gate prison, 1*s.* 4*d.*

William Parrymore, Merchant, of this city, by will, dated the 22nd of February, 1570, bequeathed to the poor felons in this prison ten shillings yearly; and likewise the same sum to the most needy debtors; the said sum of twenty shillings to be annually paid out of his lands in *Cook-row*, in this city, then occupied by *George Pyle*, Merchant; *John Lavers*, Goldsmith; and *John Madocke*, Haberdasher.

John Haydon, Esq. sometime Alderman of the city of *London*, by will, dated the 11th of March, 1579, bequeathed to the Mayor and Chamber of *Exeter* £200, on condition that the same should be lent out to four young men of the said city of *Exeter*, Merchants, and trading over the seas, for four years space, they putting in four sufficient securities for the repayment of the same, at the expiration of the time specified, paying yearly interest for the same £1 13*s.* 4*d.* each, which amounts to £6 13*s.* 4*d.* per annum; and at the end of the four years the same £200 to be lent to four other young Merchants, and so on for ever: his will is that the said Mayor and Chamber,

CHAP. VI. and their successors, should from time to time employ and bestow the said £6 13*s.* 4*d.* interest in the following manner, viz: to the poor prisoners remaining within the goals of the city of *Exeter*, yearly, £3 6*s.* 8*d.*; and to the poor inhabitants of the parishes of *Woodbury* and *Ottery St. Mary*, yearly to each parish, £1 13*s.* 4*d.* for ever, as the gift of the said *John Haydon.**

Lawrence Seldon, Merchant, of this city, by his deed, dated the 8th of May, 1598, granted unto ten feoffees (members of the Chamber) their heirs and assigns for ever, all those messuages, lands, tenements, reversions, and hereditaments whatsoever, with all the appurtenances, commonly called *Moor Estate*, (otherwise *Le Moor*) in the Manor of *Ringswell, Sowton Parish, Devon*, to the use of himself and wife, during their lives, and after their decease that his said feoffees, out of the rents and profits of the said estates, should for ever weekly pay and deliver, in bread, as follows, viz: to the parishes of *St. Mary Major, Trinity*, and *St. Sidwell*, within the city of *Exeter*, one shilling each; to the parish of *St. Thomas the Apostle* eight pence; and to the parish of *Sowton* four pence; which said bread was to be distributed by the Churchwardens and Overseers of their respective parishes every Sunday, to the most deserving poor people of the said parishes; and that the said feoffees, after paying all high rents, suits, services, and reparations, should yearly, on the 20th of October, for ever, give up to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Town-Clerk, a true account of the receipts and disbursements; and pay yearly to the said Mayor and Officers 4*s.* 6*d.* for their trouble in seeing the said will performed; and the residue of the said rents to be given to the poor prisoners confined in the city and castle of *Exeter*.

The said feoffees, by their deed, dated the 29th September, 1599, expressing that some things in the said will were uncertain, and that *Elizabeth Seldon*, the widow of the said *Lawrence*, was desirous to add some portion to the premises for the better accomplishment of the said will, and performance of the covenants expressed in a schedule annexed, did grant, enfeoff, and confirm to the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. of the said city, and their successors for ever, the premises mentioned in the first grant, and to the uses aforesaid therein declared: and the said *Elizabeth*, by this deed, did covenant to pay to the said Mayor, &c. within six months after her decease, one hundred marks, on condition that sixpence more weekly should be added to the

* This charity is not fulfilled according to the will of the donor, the said money not having been lent as directed for upwards of fifty years.—*Rights and Privileges of the Freemen*, page 80.

parish of *St. Lawrence;* sixpence more weekly to the prisoners in the gaol, near the castle; and to the prisoners in the compter, sheriff's ward, gaol, and prisons of the said city 2*s.* 6*d.* in *bread* and *meat*, weekly, according to the discretion of the Mayor for the time being, with increase of the fees of the officers for their care: *and if the rents be defective the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty are to make them good out of their own lands;* and the account thereof to be made yearly as aforesaid. She also gave to the Mayor, &c. a large standing cup of silver, with a cover, double gilt, weighing fifty ounces, to be used by the Mayors successively.*

William Tryvett, (some time one of the Common Council of this city) by will, bequeathed to the Chamber one great brass pot, for the use of the prisoners in *South-gate*, to boil their meat in, which, after his decease, was accordingly sent by his widow and executrix.†

Palmer's Almshouses.

In *Magdalen-street*, in this parish, is situate *Palmer's* alms-houses, founded by *John Palmer*, Baker, of this city, for four poor women; and the said founder, by will, dated the 26th of October, 1487, bequeathed unto six feoffees, in trust, all his messuages, lands, &c. in the said street, then an Inn, called the *Bull Inn*, with a tenement adjoining, and other land in the county of *Devon*, to the intent that the said feoffees should pay to the warden of the said parish 13*s.* 4*d.* yearly; and that his anniversary should be honourably kept in the parish church, by the warden, executors, and feoffees, with 6*s.* 8*d.*; that they should also pay to every one of the said poor alms-women 6*s.* 8*d.* at the feasts of Easter and Christmas, by equal portions; and that the houses should be well repaired; and if anything remained it should be disposed of in pious uses; and that when three of the said feoffees should die the survivors should make a new feoffment to six other honest persons to perform his will. These houses consist of two rooms each, with a small garden in front; they are kept in good repair by the Chamber, who at present hold the trust.

Wynard's Almshouses.

In the same street are *Wynard's* alms-houses and chapel, founded by *William Wynard, Esq.* (sometime Recorder of *Exeter*) for the habitation of a Priest, and twelve poor men. The said founder ordered the chapel to be dedicated to the *Holy Trinity*, and the hospital to be called *God's House;* and that the Priest, together with the twelve poor men, continually reside there. And for their better maintenance he, by a

* This cup has long been alienated.—*Rights and Privileges*, page 143.

† This extraordinary donation has long since either been embezzled or worn out; and was it still remaining it would prove of little use to the prisoners, unless some philanthropic person would provide them with meat to boil in it.

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* By the marriage of *Sir George Speke, Knight*, with *Joan*, daughter of *John Wynard, Esq.*

thereto; this suit, owing to the convulsions of the times, was much litigated, and continued in debate near eight years, in which suit the Chamber expended £300; but after the Restoration, in *Trinity Term*, 1692, they obtained the following decree:—

1st. That the chapel be repaired by the defendant, and made fit for divine service by *Michaelmas* come twelvemonth; and that the divine service of the church be read there every morning, by eight o'clock, to the poor; and the owner of the land to appoint one of the secondaries of the cathedral to read prayers there, and allow him twenty nobles per annum for his salary, to be paid quarterly.

2nd. That the defendant, *Mr. Speke*, pay the poor two shillings a week for their maintenance, in all times to come; and this to be paid to them weekly; and he to secure the payment thereof by charge on the land, or decree in chancery, as shall be advised.

3rd. That when the leases of the houses and tenements, now in the tenure of *Roger Cheeke*, lying within the city of *Exeter*, shall be renewed, or fall into hand, that upon renewing the lease thereof the rent reserved shall be increased £12 per annum, and so continue for ever hereafter, which £12 shall go unto and be equally divided among the twelve poor people of the said alms-houses.

4th. That all fines, casualties, and profits of all lands shall go and be paid to the defendant, *Mr. Speke*, and his heirs, without any account to be given thereof, charged with the payments before mentioned, and with the maintenance and reparation of the said houses and chapel, and the other charges named in the said ordination; and no future or further increase of maintenance to be claimed or made to the poor in time to come; but the visitation of the houses to be according to the ordination.

5th. That the Mayor and Aldermen of *Exeter*, for the time to come, shall have the nominating of eight of the twelve poor men of the said hospital, as *poor decayed tradesmen of the said city;* and *Mr. Speke*, and his heirs, the appointment of the other four, to be poor decayed men of *Devon* or *Somerset*, in turn, as places shall fall: first, the city twice, and *Mr. Speke* the third; and when the city's turn is they shall nominate two poor men of the said city to *Mr. Speke*, of which he shall admit one to be the alms-man within twenty days after such nomination; and those that are appointed by *Mr. Speke*, in his turn, out of *Devon* or *Somerset*, shall be such as shall not be burthensome to the said city, but live upon their own, and the allowance of the said alms-house.

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6th. That £100 costs be paid by the defendant, *Mr. Speke*, to the complainants, towards the great charge the city of *Exeter* has been at in prosecuting this suit, for settling the said alms-houses, and the relief of the poor therein.

7th. And lastly, it is ordered and decreed, that the said lands shall stand chargeable to the performance of this decree, and that the owners of the said lands (when it comes in their turns to nominate as before said) shall, within three months after the decease of either of the said alms-men, nominate another to succeed him.

These lands, by failure of issue male in the *Speke's* family, came by marriage to the *Right Honourable Frederic Lord North*, who some years since sold them, together with the patronage of this foundation, to the late *William Kennaway, Esq.* an eminent merchant, of this city, (father of the present *Sir John Kennaway, Bart.)* This gentleman proved a faithful patron, he not only thoroughly repaired the houses, but greatly beautified the chapel, and presented to it a neat service of silver communion plate; he also caused a large vault to be made in it for a dormitory for himself and family, in which he lies interred; and a handsome marble monument has been erected to his memory. There is likewise an ancient monument to the memory of the pious founder, on which is this epitaph:—

Hæc nova structura retinens habitacula plura,
Sit permansura per tempora longa futura,
Debilibus simulæ senibus fuit a edificata,
Pauperibus non divitibus fuit ista beata,
Hanc qui fundavit, donavit, perpetuavit,
Crimina cum davit sua credimus omnia lavit,
Constructor cijus patriæ edecas verbis et hijus,
Atq: Recordator Wynard heu! nomine Willus,
Sit domus ista Dei, aut hæc mea non reputetur,
Sic baptizetur, sit domus ista Dei.
M: C: *junge quater sit opus hæc numerater,*
Anno octavo regni regis Henrici sexti:
Annoq. Dn̄i 1430.

The above monkish verse is thus translated:—

May these new walls, which boast their founder's name,
To distant times his piety proclaim!
Not for the rich his many cells appear,
Age, sickness, penury, find shelter here.
To Him whose glory fills the eternal throne,
The rising fane he consecrates alone.
A lasting fabric, nor endow'd in vain,
It clears, we trust, his soul from earthly stain.
Wynard, all hail! though now to us deny'd,

Recording magistrate, our city's pride,
Yet thy bright name, not to these walls confin'd,
Thy country graces, dignifies mankind.

The present chaplain is the *Rev. Richard Eastcott,* one of the priest vicars of the cathedral, and rector of *St. Edmund's* and *St. Mary Steps'*.

At the foot of the hill is a very ancient chapel and hospital, dedicated to *St. Mary Magdalene,* (from whence the street derives its name of *Maudlin;)* this, with a small district around, is extra-parochial, and formerly had considerable revenues.* It was built soon after the Conquest, on the return of the first *Crusaders* from the *Holy Land,* who imported with them that loathsome disease the elephanthis, or leprosy, a malady unknown to the *Anglo-Saxons.* Who were the founders of this hospital is not recorded, but most probably, as it was under the protection of the Bishops of *Exeter,* it was founded by one of them, for the reception of those unhappy objects who should be infected with that disorder, and to prevent the contagion from spreading.

In 1163 Bishop *Bartholomew Iscanus* granted to the infected people of this hospital liberty to collect a toll on all corn and bread sold in the fairs and markets of this city, and also to collect alms, from door to door, of the Citizens, on certain days every week; accordingly they continued so to do until the year 1244, when the Citizens complaining that their frequent intercourse through the markets and streets was obnoxious to them, and occasioned the spreading of the disease, forbid them the markets, and refused them any relief, which much grieved the then Bishop *Brewer:* and to prevent any future dispute an agreement was made between the Mayor and Citizens on the one part, and the Bishop on the other, to exchange their right of patronage; accordingly the Bishop surrendered to the Mayor, &c. his claims on this hospital, and received in exchange the patronage of that of *St. John,* near *East-gate.*

Richard Orenge, Esq. a gentleman of noble parentage, and Mayor of this city in 1454, being infected with the leprosy, notwithstanding his great wealth, submitted himself to a residence in this hospital, where he lived many years, and finished his days, and was buried in the chancel of the chapel; his grave, with a mutilated inscription, is still remaining.

Benefactions to the Lepers' Hospital.

The following benefactions that have been given to this hospital are the only ones preserved:—

John Periman was a great benefactor. †

* The leases of the lands still remaining to this hospital are granted in the name of the brothers and sisters of the hospital of St. Mary Magdalene.

† See the list of general benefactions to this city.

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John Baker bequeathed to the poor of this hospital an annuity of 3*s.* 4*d.* yearly.

Robert Chafe, Esq. (sometime Mayor) bequeathed an annuity or yearly rent-charge of 14*s.* to be for ever issued out of a dwelling-house in *St. Mary Arches*' parish.

It having been proved, by an inquisition held before the *Right Honourable Thomas Lord Coventry*, Lord-Keeper of the Great Seal of *England*, 6th July, 1633, that from time immemorial the Dean and Chapter were accustomed to pay the sum of £2 12*s.* yearly to the poor of this hospital, the said Lord-Keeper confirmed a decree,* that the said sum should for ever, henceforth, be paid to them by the Dean and Chapter, which is still continued.

Joan Tuckfield bequeathed yearly to the poor lazar people in this hospital 1*s.* 8*d.* †

What was the extent or form of the original building of this hospital cannot now be ascertained, no part, except the chapel, bearing any vestige of antiquity; the houses, about six in number, not being contiguous, appears to have been erected at different periods; and as claimants that are leperous are not now to be found sufficient to occupy them they are filled with other poor people, nominated by the Warden and Chamber. The chapel is now desecrated, and kept in a filthy condition, no glass being in the windows; it still has one bell, and some mutilated grave-stones, with broken inscriptions.

Leth-bridge's Alms-houses.

In *James's-street*, within *South-gate*, are six alms-houses, founded by *Christopher Lethbridge, Esq.* (sometime Mayor of *Exeter*) before the year 1669, for six poor people; the said founder also endowed them with £15 12*s.* per annum, to be equally divided, and paid monthly to the poor occupiers, appointing the Mayor and Chamber to be trustees; he also ordered that one of the said alms-people should for ever be chosen from the poor of *St. Mary Arches*' parish.

The Friars.

Just without *South-gate* is the Manor anciently occupied and belonging to the *Grey Friars*, and from them is still denominated the *Friars;* on this site they founded a sumptuous house and church, with large orchards and gardens, of which there is not at present the smallest vestige remaining. The choice of this place confirms the old adage, "that wherever there was a good prospect, or a pleasant spot of land, a Friar was sure to be found." On this ground there is now erecting a beautiful pile of buildings, which is to consist of twenty-nine houses, comprising a small segment of a circle. The first stone of these buildings was laid by *Mrs. Graves* (wife of the present

* See donations to the parish of St. Sidwell.

† See benefactions to the Company of Tailors, St. Paul's parish.

and daughter of the late proprietor) and *Thomas Floud, Esq.* late Mayor, who named it *Colleton Crescent.* Behind the gardens of these houses it is intended to erect convenient mews and coach-houses, and another street parallel to *Holloway*, to be named *Graves'-street.* When the whole is finished it will be an ornament to the city. In front of *Colleton Crescent* a fine terrace walk is to be made, which will be near one hundred feet above the bed of the river: from this walk, and from the houses, there is one of the most charming prospects imaginable; the navigable river *Exe*, the shipping, and crowded bay beneath, whilst the elevated situation is a protection from the damps of the one and the noise of the other; the beautiful reach of the river, from the quay to the bridge, the water of which being embayed by *Trew's Weir*, and always full, has the appearance of an artificial lake; the meanders of the haven, with its pleasant and often crowded banks; the shifting scenery of vessels passing up and down; and the church and parish of *St. Thomas*, are truly picturesque; beyond these the finely cultivated country, interspersed with villages, farms, &c. between the city and the brown heights of *Haldon*, *Penhill*, &c.; and to the south, the estuary of the *Exe* to its junction with the ocean. In short, for salubrity of air, fine prospects, and delightful situation, it cannot be exceeded, if equalled, in any city or town in the kingdom.

Quakers' Meeting-house.

The Quakers' Meeting-house is situate in *Magdalene-street;* it is a plain structure, remarkably clean and neat within, and behind it is a cemetery.

Dissenters' Burying-ground. Jews' ditto.

Opposite the Quakers' Meeting-house is a large burying-ground, belonging to the Presbyterians. And adjoining it is another belonging to the Jews. *

George's Meeting.

In *South-gate-street* is a large and handsome dissenting meeting-house, named *George's Meeting;* it is built of brick, with Portland stone bands and copings, and in the front is a large and lofty portico, supported by tuscan columns; the whole is spacious and elegant, and is not excelled by any edifice of the kind in the kingdom; it has a large and genteel congregation belonging to it; and was erected in the year 1760, in the room of one which stood in *James's-street.*

The quay is likewise in this parish, which is large and commodious, ships of one hundred and fifty tons burthen and upwards being capable of lying alongside it, and discharging their cargoes; the passage to it from *Topsham* is by an artificial canal, on which are four sluices, which opens into a large bay, formed by *Trew's Weir.* On this quay is a handsome custom-house, with apartments for the collector, comptrollers, and

* Near these burying-grounds is an ancient stone cross, fixed against the wall; its shaft is either broken off or sunk into the ground.

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land-waiters' offices, and a handsome office for the wharfinger, with lofts and cellars for storing goods. A new canal is now began, which is to extend from the quay bay to the town of *Crediton*, which will be of great advantage to the county, and it is to be hoped will be further continued. *

According to the late returns there were in the parish of the *Holy Trinity* two hundred and ninety-four houses, fifteen of which were uninhabited, containing three hundred und forty-five families, in which were eight hundred and twenty-one males and one thousand one hundred and nineteen females, in all one thousand nine hundred and forty inhabitants.

St. George.

Proceeding more towards the centre of the city is the parish of *St. George*. The church is small, consisting of a nave, chancel, and small aisle under the tower; from this aisle there is an aperture made through the wall, for the convenience of that part of the congregation to behold the elevation of the host, (the custom before the Reformation.) This church is kept in good repair, and is neatly seated; the tower is large, but not lofty, and is not decorated with either spire or vane; it contains a good ring of five bells, and also a clock, without a dial. This parish is usually held in commendam with that of *St. John*, and divine service is here performed, to the united parishes, in the forenoon only. The era of its foundation is not known, but it appears to be an ancient structure, though not mentioned till the year 1222, when it was made parochial; it is now a rectory, in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, and is valued in the King's books at £9 13*s*. 4*d*. per annum, certified value £28. †

The only monuments deserving notice are the following:—

On the north side, near the altar, is a neat mural monument to the memory of the *Rev. William Chilcot*, rector of this church, and of his daughter. He died the 30th of May, 1711.

Near this is a large heavy stone monument, on which is a bust, erected to the memory of *Thomas Baron, Esq.* sometime of *Exeter*.

Likewise another, with a bust neatly executed, to the memory of *Richard Vivian*, Merchant, of *Exeter*, who died in 1746.

* The advantage of inland navigation is too well known to need any comment thereon; and it is quite certain that great benefits would accrue by forming a junction of the *North* and *South Seas* by this canal, a scheme very practicable, as a branch of the river *Taw* runs not six miles from *Crediton*, which would form a communication between the ports of *Exeter* and *Barnstaple*, by which means the dangerous and circuitous passage round the *Land's End* would be avoided, insurance needless, and trade greatly benefited, to the incalculable advantage of the whole county.

† This living must be overvalued in the *Liber Regis*,—the late worthy rector, *Mr. Marshall*, never received £16 a year from it.

Benefactions to the poor of *St. George's* parish :—

Benefactions.

John Baker, Baker, of this city, among other charities, bequeathed to the poor of this parish an annuity of 3*s.* 4*d.* yearly.

King John's Palace.

The remains of antiquity in this parish are few; the only one deserving notice is an ancient house, opposite *Little Style-gate,* vulgarly called *King John's Palace;* this house has been greatly altered from its original state by its present owner, *Mr. Henry Flashman,* Cabinetmaker. The decorations of the principal entrance are very remarkable, consisting of two grotesque figures in a crouchant posture, supporting statues; that on the left hand representing a clown, in an antique dress, holding a club in the attitude of striking; and over his head, on a shield, are the royal arms of *England* and *France,* quarterly. The other statue represents a zany, in an antique dress, trimmed with small round bells, his head covered with a long peccadillo cap, and holding a child's doll; over him are the arms of the city.*

Butcher-row.

The *Butcher-row* (the greatest part of which is in this parish) consists of a narrow street, the buildings in general low and mean, with heavy hanging window shutters; here the knights of the steel reside in a sort of community among themselves, slaughter their cattle, and expose their meat for sale.

Corn Market.

Adjoining to it is the *Corn Market,* a quadrangular building, supported by wooden pillars, surrounded with stalls for the use of the country Butchers, on Wednesdays and Saturdays. These shambles, as well as the stalls of the resident Butchers, afford a great variety, and are as well supplied as any market in the kingdom. The *Corn Market* is open for the sale of all sorts of grain and seed every Friday, and is greatly resorted to.

The slaughtering of cattle, with the accumulation of dung, blood, &c. thrown in heaps behind the houses, makes the *Butcher-row* a noisome place in the summer; but such is the force of habit that the inhabitants cannot be prevailed on to remove such a nuisance.† Some years since the Chamber erected, at a great expence, a row of slaughter-houses, with hogsties, and every necessary convenience, upon the banks of the river, and opened an avenue to them over the city walls, but they were soon deserted, and the building was converted into a brewhouse. Notwithstanding the noisome smells arising from such an accumulation of putrid matter, tradition informs

* From the peculiarity of this device some gentlemen are led to conjecture that it is satirical.

† Since the removal of the *Conduit* to its present station the waste water is conveyed into the *Butcher-row,* which, by cleansing the kennel, in some measure alleviates the nuisance.

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us that during the ravages of the most severe pestilence in this city it did not appear in that district.

Thomas Flood, Esq. during his Mayoralty, introduced a new method of slaying cattle, recommended by the *Right Hon. Lord Somerville*, which is (instead of the barbarous method of breaking the skull with a poleaxe) by thrusting a double-edged sharp pointed dagger between the *cervical vertebræ* of the forehead,* which occasions almost instant death; and by this means diminishes the sufferings of the poor animals.

Mr. George England first put this method in practice in this city; but few others have as yet followed his example.

According to the last returns this parish contained seventy-five inhabited houses and seven uninhabited, in which were one hundred and forty-three families, consisting of two hundred and ninety-one males and three hundred and fifty-one females, in all six hundred and forty-two inhabitants.

St. Mary Arches.

The parish of *St. Mary Arches* is contiguous to that of *St. George*. The church (which is situate in a lane of the same name) is a large and regular building, in the gothic style, consisting of a nave, two aisles, a chancel, and spacious gallery; the vaulted roof is supported by slender pillars, forming pointed arches, from whence it obtained its epithet of *St. Mary Arches*, (like *St. Mary le Bow*, in *London*) to distinguish it from others dedicated to the blessed virgin in different parts of this city. It is kept in very good repair, has an organ, is neatly pewed, and has three large brass chandeliers. The tower, under which is the principal entrance, is square and low, containing four small bells, and a clock and dial; the summit is crested with a modern erected cupola, in which is a small shrill-toned bell, to give notice of the time of divine service. The church is ancient, but does not appear, from the style of the architecture, to be the original sacred edifice erected on the same spot: we find it was made parochial in the year 1222: it is now a rectory, to which is united that of *St. Olave*, in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, and is valued in the King's books at £10 per annum, certified value £16. Rector, *Rev. Benedict Pering*. The rector has a neat parsonage house, in *Bartholomew-street*, the only one in the city deserving notice.

There are many sepulchral monuments, among which the following only are worthy notice:—

On the north side is an ancient monument, in a good taste,

* This method has for many years been practised in *Gibraltar*, by the English Butchers, who learnt it from their *African* neighbours; and it is to be hoped the legislature will soon make a compulsory law to enforce it.

and well executed. The inscription is now imperfect; it was erected to the memory of *John Davye, Esq.* who was three times Mayor of this city, and died on the 11th day of January, 1611.

Mr. Prince has preserved the verses formerly on this monument:—

This marble monument, this fading brass,
Might have been spar'd, for neither needful was
To stand a register of Davye's *name;*
Who living did erect a fairer frame,
And far more lasting; whose foundation
Was firmly grounded on the corner stone;
Whose bar was faith, whose pillars piety,
And whose engravings works of charity.
Then let the dead trust to a dying tomb;
But how can death in Davye *find a room,*
Whose soul in heaven alive does aye remain,
Whose works on earth so many lives maintain.

There are several mural monuments to the memory of the ancient and pretorian family of the *Walkers*, of this city; but the inscriptions are much defaced by time, particularly one on the east side, on which is *Robert Walker*, son of *Thomas Walker*, (sometime Mayor of this city,) who died 23rd August, 1673. Also another, to the memory of *Thomas Walker*, son of the said *Robert Walker*, who died the 24th November, 1682. Near the last mentioned is another, inscribed to the memory of *Mary*, wife of *John Ceely*, Canon of *St. Peter's*, and daughter of *Robert Walker, Esq.* On the south side is a large decent monument, on which are two figures in a kneeling posture, and well executed, in the dress of the times, to the memory of *Thomas Walker, Esq.* (three times Mayor) and his wife; he died November the 3rd, 1628. On the north side is a large stately monument, erected to the memory of *Richard Crossing*, (sometime Mayor) who died October the 3rd, 1672. And another to the memory of *Nicholas Brooking, Esq.* Mayor, who died the 3rd of October, 1666. And against the south wall there is one to the memory of *Christopher Lethbridge, Esq.* Mayor, who died May the 15th, 1670, and of his wife.

Benefactions to the poor of *St. Mary Arches:*—

Benefactions.

Richard Bevy, Merchant, of this city, by deed, dated the 16th of June, 1602, granted to *William Tickle* and *John Marshal, Gents.* and their heirs, four messuages, one barn, and two acres of land, lying in the parishes of *St. Mary Major* and *St. Sidwell*, to the use of himself for life, and to

CHAP. VI. several others entail, provided that the said feoffees, and their heirs and assigns, should and might for ever levy and receive an annual rent-charge of £4 per annum; and in default of payment thereof to enter and distrain, &c.; and further, that the said feoffees, their heirs and assigns, should yearly pay to the Wardens of the several parishes of *St. Mary Arches*, *St. Olave*, *St. John*, and *Allhallows on the Walls*, in this city, at the feasts of *Easter* and *St. Michael the Archangel*, by equal portions, twenty shillings, to the intent that the said Wardens, by and with the consent of the sidesmen of their respective parishes for the time being, and in default of such consent, by and with the consent of the Mayor of the said city, and of the heirs of the said land, shall give and pay unto such poor maidens as shall happen to be married in any one year, within any of the respective parishes, being such as have served within the said parish wherein they shall so happen to be married the full term of two years, before the time of such marriage or marriages, the sum of ten shillings each. And if but one poor maid be married, in any one several parish, in any one year, that then the said wardens, by and with the like consent, shall give and pay unto such maid, so to be married, twenty shillings. And if no such marriage should take place in any one year, the said annuity to be yearly kept in that parish until such marriage shall happen; which, with the arrears, to be paid to two maids respectively, and equally, if married in any one year, in any one of the said parishes; and if but one, then she is to receive the whole.

Robert Chafe, by his will, dated the 20th of November, 1613, bequeathed to the poor of this parish an annuity of two shillings yearly, to be for ever issuable out of a tenement in *St. Mary Arches-lane*, in this parish.

Christopher Lethbridge, *Esq.* (sometime Mayor of this city) by will, dated the 17th of November, 1669, bequeathed to the poor of this parish an annuity or yearly rent of £3 0*s.* 8*d.* to be paid quarterly, for and during the term of three thousand years, issuing out of a dwelling-house situated in the said parish; and appointed, according to his said will, that the same should be bestowed in bread, by equal portions, every Lord's day, by the Churchwardens of the said parish for the time being, and by them given to fourteen poor people, inhabitants thereof, such as they shall think fit objects; and if the said Churchwardens shall think proper, so many may have it on the first Lord's day, and so many on the next; but his will is that the said bread *be given to none but those that go to the church, and remain there every Lord's day during the time of divine*

service, and sermon, if any, unless such as are hindered by infirmity or sickness; the same to commence immediately after his death; and if it be not paid as aforesaid, that then it shall be lawful to and for the said Churchwardens to enter into the premises charged with the said annuity, and to distrain for the same, with the arrears unpaid, if any be; and the distress and distresses there from time to time taken to detain and keep until the annuity so being behind, and the arrears thereof, be unto them fully satisfied and paid.

Nicholas Spicer, Esq. (twice Mayor) by deed, dated the 7th of March, 1609, among other charities, bequeathed an annuity of ten shillings yearly, for ever, to be constantly bestowed in the reparation of this church.

Jews' Synagogue.

In an obscure corner, behind *St. Mary Arches'* church, is the *Jews' Synagogue*, a small, plain, but neat edifice, erected in the year 1764. The congregation is but small, the resident families of Jews being few in number, and their travelling visitors not so numerous as they were some years since. *

Bluemaids' Hospital.

In the same lane is situate the *Bluemaids* or *Hele's Hospital*, an ancient house, with a battlemented roof. This hospital was founded by *Sir John Maynard, Knight*, as executor in trust of the will of *Elize Hele, Esq.* who left a large estate for charitable purposes. Accordingly he purchased this house and garden for the sum of £600, being money arising from fines levied on estates in the Manor of *Lawrence Clist*, appropriating it as an hospital for the maintenance and education of a certain number of poor girls. He also endowed the same with an annuity or rent-charge of £50 per annum, to be for ever issuable out of *Bovey Mills*, in the county of *Devon*. The said *Sir John Maynard* also gave £500 towards the erection of a *Bridewell*, or *House of Correction*, for vagabonds, within this city; and he was a great benefactor also to *St. John's Hospital*.

John Mayne, Merchant, of this city, gave £100, in his lifetime, towards the better support of this hospital.

Richard Ducke, Esq. of Mount Radford, by will, dated the 21st of July, 1656, bequeathed £50 (in addition to the like sum given at the death of his wife) for the better support of this hospital, to be paid out of his estate, in lieu of the expences which would occur from a pompous funeral; but which he desired might be plain and private.

* From all appearances there was anciently an open lane of communication from this place through the George Inn yard, into *North-street*; but it has long since been closed up with buildings.

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Edmund Prideaux, Esq. also gave £100 for the like purposes.

Simon Snow, Esq. (besides his charities already mentioned to *St. John's Hospital)* by will, devised as follows: I give and bequeath to the Corporation of the city of *Exeter*, and their successors for ever, all that brewhouse and malthouse, called the *Common Brewhouse*, lately erected near the *Duckingstool Mills*, in *Exe Island*, to be by their care and foresight managed for the public good of the said city, and particularly for the payment of £32 per annum to four pensioners, called *Dr. Vilvayne's* pensioners.* He also further devised and ordered that after the payment for all necessary repairs and disbursements the said estates should stand in need of, and the following fees yearly, viz: to the Warden of the Magdalen £1 12*s.*; to the Mayor 10*s.*; to the Recorder 10*s.*; to the seven Justices of the Peace, each 6*s.*; to the Town-Clerk, for his trouble in making out and settling the annual accounts, £5; to the Chamberlain 3*s.*; to the rest of the Common Council 15*s.* 2*d.*; and to the Sword-Bearer and four Sergeants at Mace 8*d.* each; that after the expences occurring for procuring the King's patent for establishing this hospital be paid, and the annual discharge of the said pensions and salaries, the whole rents and profits of the said malt and brewhouse, with their appurtenances remaining, should be for ever settled on and converted to the use of this hospital, until there should be a sufficient fund raised for the maintenance of forty poor maids therein; and that the choice and nomination of the said maids be for ever invested in the then Chamber, and their successors; and after such provision made for the said forty maids, he further desired that provision be made and raised for the binding out the said maids apprentices, and for portions for such of them as shall marry with the consent and approbation of the said Chamber, and their successors; and that none else should enjoy the benefit thereof.

Notwithstanding these great bequests to the Hospital, the number of poor girls educated therein amounts to a small number, seldom exceeding ten; they are provided with food, clothes, &c.; and are taught reading, knitting, sewing, and household work, to qualify them for servants; and at a proper age are bound out apprentices, a small premium being given with them. Part of this hospital is now appropriated to the use of one of the girls' charity schools for this city.

* See St. John's Hospital.

Davye's Alms-houses.

Near the above-mentioned hospital are *Davye's* Alms-houses, founded by *John Davye, Esq.* (who was Mayor three times) for six poor people, viz: two married couple, and two single persons, men or women; the said founder also liberally endowed them with two tenements adjoining; a yearly rent of 6*s.* 6*d.* issuing out of the *George Inn*, in the parish of *St. Kerian*, in this city; the rectory and parsonage of *Morleigh*, alias *Mariansleigh*, in the county of *Devon*, with all the tithes and profits issuing therefrom, together with the parsonage-house, and two acres of land; and one other tenement lately erected by him in a corner of the churchyard; all these estates he conveyed to the Mayor of *Exeter*, six Aldermen, and eight other members of the Common Council, as appears by his indented deed, dated the 10th of February, 1599, to have and to hold the premises for ten thousand years, upon trust to perform certain ordinances annexed to the deed, with provision that if the trustees should willingly break any of the said ordinances, within fourteen months next after warning in that behalf given by his heirs, that then it shall be lawful for his heirs to re-enter and bestow the same as the said trustees ought to do, until the trustees should amend the same; by which ordinances he appointed that the trustees should demise the said rectory to the uttermost yearly value, not taking any fine, and that they should bestow on the Minister there, for the time being, all the profits which they should make thereof, over and above the yearly sum of £16 10*s.* and the reasonable charges and expences attending the same; that they should, from time to time, appoint a sufficient Minister to serve the cure there; that so often as any of the alms-houses should be void, the trustees, with the consent of the Mayor and Common Council, should place some other decayed people of honest conversation there, to remain during their lives, demeaning themselves well, to be chosen out of the poor inhabitants of the said city, and to be viewed in the guildhall there, every of them to be of the age of sixty years at least, and there inhabiting ten years before; and if no such people are to be found in the city, then in the county of the said city; that the trustees, weekly, on every Saturday, should pay out of the issues and profits of all the premises, unto each of the married couple, 2*s.* 4*d.* and to the single persons 1*s.* 6*d.* each, for their better relief; and if any one of the said married couple should die, the surviving party to have only 1*s.* 8*d.* and the other 8*d.* to be divided among the rest, poll and poll alike; and if one or both of the married couple die every of the poor to have 1*s.* 10*d.* each, until a new choice be made, with direction that

CHAP. VI. if any of the said poor, being single, should marry, to lose their houses and pay; also to help one another in sickness; also to accompany one another to their burials, without reasonable cause of excuse; and not to beg, on pain of losing their contributions for a week; that the poor should be continually resident in their houses, and demean themselves orderly, on pain of expulsion; that for the better observing these ordinances the said *John Davye* did appoint that the said Mayor and Common Council should, once every year at least, make enquiry whether the poor people do observe the said ordinances; and that when the number of the said trustees should be reduced within six, that they should assign over their estate in charge to ten others of the residue of the Common Council; that the said trustees should yearly bestow upon the poor of the parish of *Morleigh* ten shillings; that the overplus of the said premises (over and above the said weekly contribution) the trustees should keep in a chest, for the reparation of the said houses, to be locked with three keys; and the writings concerning the premises to be kept also in that chest; the orders touching the election of the alms-people to be contained in a table, to be read before the election of any alms-man; that the trustees yearly, on the 20th of October, should be called to give the accounts in writing, of and concerning the premises, before the Mayor, Town-Clerk, and Bailiffs, for the time being, which should be entered into a book kept for that purpose by the Town-Clerk, for which labour the trustees are to pay to the Mayor 1*s.*; to the Town-Clerk 1*s.*; to the Bailiffs 4*d.* each; to the Sword-Bearer and Sergeants 2*d.* each; and the book and overplus to be put into the said chest.

Over a doorway leading into the Corn Market is a very remarkable armorial bearing, carved in wood, viz: on a shield (the colours not emblazoned) two calvary crosses, in saltier, with a crosier in pale; it appears ancient, and was probably the arms of some religious community to whom the house belonged.

According to the late returns there were in this parish sixty-four houses, five of which were uninhabited, containing ninety-three families, in which were one hundred and sixty males and two hundred and eighteen females, in all three hundred and seventy-eight inhabitants.

St. Olave. Adjoining the last described parish is that dedicated to *St. Olave*. The church bears evident marks of antiquity, particularly the tower, which is of *Saxon* construction; it has three aisles, and a vaulted roof supported by six massy pillars; it is dark and gloomy; and as divine service is not performed in it

little attention is paid either to cleanliness or interior repairs. The tower, which is in front, is square, and at its summit are grotesque figures serving as spouts to convey the water from the leads; adjoining the tower is a flight of circular stairs, leading to a small room over the gateway, once the habitation of the *Romish* rectors, but now occupied by the sexton. After the *Norman* Conquest this church was given to the new-erected Abbey of *Battle*, in *Sussex;* and it continued part of its possessions until the dissolution of that Abbey, the rectors being generally members of the adjoining Priory of *St. Nicholas*. After the Reformation, this benefice, being small and the income trifling, remained many years without an incumbent, the parishioners uniting themselves with that of *St. Mary Arches*, and which still continues. After the revocation of the edict of *Nantes*, great numbers of the Protestants fled for refuge to this kingdom, and many of them settled in this city; when, on applying to the then Bishop for a place of worship, this church was granted to them; and for many years divine service was performed in the *French* language, by pastors of their own electing, the last of whom was the *Rev. Lewis Courtauld*, on whose death, about the year 1758, the congregation having, through their long connexion and intermarriages with the natives, become incorporated with them, the further continuance of religious worship in the *French* language was thought unnecessary, and this church was again shut up; after that it was used at times by such regiments of soldiers as were quartered in the city, and their chaplains performed divine service in it; but this has been long discontinued, and it is now used only as a cemetery for a few families.* It is a rectory, in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, valued in the King's books at £7 18*s.* 4*d.* per annum, certified value £18.

In the year 1778, this church undergoing some repairs, the workmen found a number of octangular pieces of thin pasteboard, painted red on both sides, and on one side, within a circular border, was stamped this *French* inscription, "*Christ est le Pain de Vie.*" They were supposed to have been certificates, delivered by the Priests after confession, to qualify the bearers to receive the holy eucharist.

On the north side is an antique monument, with a *Latin* inscription much defaced, erected to the memory of *John Acland*,

* From this church being dedicated to *St. Olave*, the first Christian King of *Norway*, (who was martyred by his Pagan subjects in the latter end of the ninth century) it seems probable that it was erected during the *Danish* usurpation over this kingdom, as he was held in great veneration by the *Scandinavian* nations.

CHAP. VI. descended from the ancient families of the *Aclands* and *Stapledons*, who died January, 1640. Part of the inscription runs thus: "*Hujusque civitatis senioris peril Custris.*" On the same monument is an inscription to the memory of *Margery*, daughter of *John Acland, Jun. Esq.* and wife of *Arthur Duck*, Merchant, of *London*, who died the 8th of August, 1695. Against the north wall is an oval marble tablet, lately erected, to the memory of *Henry Farrant*, Druggist, late of this city, and of his brother, the *Rev. Robert Farrant*, Rector of *St. Petrock*. This monument is so very injudiciously placed, in an elevated situation and dark corner, that the inscription cannot be read without the help of a candle.

Richard Bevy, Gent. was a benefactor to the poor maidens of this parish.*

Saint Nicholas's Priory.

The Priory of *St. Nicholas*, already mentioned, was situated in this parish; great part of the ancient building, particularly the Prior's lodgings and some of the cells, are still remaining, and converted into a dwelling-house, lately inhabited by *N. E. Cosserat, Esq.;* but modern alterations having been introduced into the structure it has lost its gothic beauty, and is now in a ruinous state, seven hundred years having elapsed since its erection.† Another part of this ancient structure has for many years been occupied by the *Roman Catholic* Priests, in which was a private chapel, where the citizens of that persuasion performed their devotions. On the late Revolution in *France* great numbers of emigrant Priests fled for refuge to this country, where they were maintained and protected by the bounty of its inhabitants, many of whom resided in this city for some years. Part of them formed a religious community, and resided in this house until their return to their native land. The beautiful and sumptuous church belonging to this Priory was purchased, soon after the Reformation, by the Chamber of this city, who caused it to be demolished, and applied the materials towards the repairs of *Exe Bridge* and the *City Walls*. On part of its site a *Roman Catholic* church was built a few years since; this edifice is very neat, but plain, and capable of holding a

* See the foregoing parish of *St. Mary Arches.*

† We have no accounts to whom the buildings and site of this Priory were granted at the Reformation; but from its being different freeholds, the deeds of which reach no further back than the reign of *Edward* VI. it was probably sold in different lots, the Chamber purchasing great part; and they are still proprietors of some of the lands, *St. Nicholas* and *Lammas* Fairs, and the Oat Market, which were part of its ancient demesnes.

ST NICHOLAS'S PRIORY, MINT,

EXETER

much larger congregation than at present frequent it. On digging for the foundation of this church many remains of the ancient one were discovered, such as carved mouldings, parts of sepulchral monuments, mutilated inscriptions, &c. Adjoining stands a large Dissenting Meeting-house; a plain and neat building; it is commonly called the *Arian Meeting*. The congregation is very numerous, and though they dissent in some particulars from their Presbyterian brethren, it does not appear that they follow the doctrine of *Arius*.

Arian Meeting.

The lane which leads from the *Fore-street* to this Priory has long been called the *Mint*, and, according to tradition, part of the old building was formerly used for coining, but at what time we are ignorant; part of *Hele's* hospital, as has already been related, having been appropriated for that purpose during the reign of *William* III.; and it is not probable that it has retained the name of the *Mint* ever since the days of King *Athelstan:* that the liberty of coinage was often granted to the principal Abbeys must be acknowledged, but we have no account that it was ever conferred on this Priory.*

The Mint.

St. Bartholomew's Burying-ground is contiguous, and was once the orchard and garden belonging to this Priory; it is bounded on one side by the city wall, on which is a pleasant walk, commanding a noble prospect. On a designed elevation of the parapet is a large Portland stone tablet, on which is carved the arms of the Diocess, impaled with *Hall*, the arms of the city, and those of *Mallack;* and underneath is this inscription:—

St. Bartholomew's Burying-ground.

Repositorum Dei fidelium Dormitorum. This Platte of Grounde was gyven by the cytte of Exon, fytted and encompassed by the concurrent charge of both the churche and cytte, with the carefull oveseeing of Mr. Roger Mallack, merchante, then maior, and was solemnly consecrated by the reverende

* Before the introduction of copper coin, in the reign of *Charles* II. the principal tradesmen and shopkeepers made use of small pieces of brass money, stamped with their names, and devices alluding to their several callings; these were called tradesmen's tokens, and served as small change; every shopkeeper, &c. keeping a box, in which were many partitions; and this was termed a sorting box; in this box they lodged the tokens of the different traders, and when they amounted to a certain sum carried them to their issuers, who were obliged to exchange them for lawful coin; many of these tokens, of different inhabitants of this city, are still preserved; and probably the engine or fly press by which they were struck was kept in this place; one machine of that kind being sufficient to supply the city and neighbourhood; and from this circumstance it might have obtained the name of the *Mint*.

CHAP. VI. *Joseph Halle, then Lord Bishoppe of Exon, upon Sainte Bartholomewes Day: Auguste* XXIIII. 1637.

Preciosa inconspectu Dei Mors Sanctorum. *

On opening a grave, in the year 1762, a large blue marble stone was discovered, deep sunk in the ground, on which was the following inscription :—

Epitaph upon *Captain Nicholas Vaughan*, Muster-Master of the Train Bands, in the county of *Devon* and the city of *Exeter;* who, in the execution of a warrant for taking away malignants' arms, designed for the assistance of rebellious forces against King and Parliament, was treacherously slain by a shot out of a window, at *Dunsford*, in *Devon*, December the 11th, and here interred December the 15th, 1642.

Underneath this inscription is this armorial bearing, viz : on a shield, three boars' heads, in pale, erased, (the colours not described ;) and under the arms the following lines :—

Under this stone, good reader, lyes,
The man whose blood to heaven cries;
Not like a fool or fettered slave,
But Abner *like he went to grave.*
In loyalty to just commands,
He fell by false and wicked hands.
This stone shall lie a monument,
To crye avenge this innocent.

This stone is not injured by time, and from its high state of preservation, after a lapse of upwards of one hundred and twenty years, to the time of its discovery, it is probable that it was purposely secreted by his friends, to prevent its being injured by the Republicans, after the decline and ruin of the royal party. There are many handsome altar tombs in this burying-ground, too numerous for a particular description; and near the city wall are interred the remains of the learned *Mr. Andrew Brice*, who, notwithstanding his pompous funeral, has neither stone nor memento to denote the spot, but his works will preserve his memory to future ages.

In this parish, according to the late returns, there were ninety-seven houses, six of which were uninhabited, containing one hundred and eighteen families, consisting of two hundred and fifty-two males and three hundred and fourteen females; total five hundred and sixty-six inhabitants.

St. John. The parish of *St. John* is contiguous to that of *St. Olave.* The church is evidently an ancient structure, but no mention is made of it until the year 1222, when it appears in the list

* The old inscription being much mutilated a new stone was erected in its stead, in the year 1798, in the mayoralty of *John Balle, Esq.*

of parochial churches. The tower is square, with a circular projecting staircase, battlemented at its summit, and crowned with a vane; in the tower are three small bells, and a clock, with a double projecting dial, which may be seen at a great distance. This church is an irregular building, the floor being greatly elevated above the level of the street; and, notwithstanding the parishioners have expended considerable sums in its improvement, it is low, incommodious, and incapable of containing a large congregation, so that the parishioners, with those of its united parish, *St. George*, are greatly distressed for want of proper seats. The chancel, which is supported by an arch thrown over the adjoining street, commonly called *St. John's Bow*, is more elevated than the floor of the church. For the standing of this arch the parishioners pay an annual rent to the Duke of *Cornwall*, as Lord of the Manor of this city. From the uncommon situation of this chancel on the north-east side of the church, it seems very probable that it is of later erection, and that the original chancel was at the eastern end of the nave; but there is no record that mentions such an alteration; and it is rather surprising that the parishioners should saddle themselves with an annual expence for so small an addition to their church, when more room might have easily been procured. The whole of the building is paid great attention to, and is kept in good repair. Underneath part of the church is a small room, for many years appropriated to the use of a cobbler; but now, with more propriety, glazed and altered into a vestry. This living was once appropriated to the Priory of *Plympton*, until its dissolution, when it fell into the hands of the King, in whom it still remains, and is now held by sequestration, by the *Rev. Theophilus Barnes, Jun.*; certified value £18 per annum.*

The only monument deserving notice is fixed against the south wall, on which is this inscription:—

In memory of *Sir Benjamin Oliver*, of this city, (who had the honour of being knighted in the year of his mayoralty, by King *Charles* II. in his Majesty's passage to *London*, from *Plymouth*, July the 23rd, 1671) who departed this life, in the

* A dispute took place this present year, 1804, between the incumbent and parishioners, the origin of which was this:—the rector, who resides at *Pontefract*, in *Yorkshire*, neglecting to provide a regular curate, the parishioners, who paid very liberally, applied to him by letter, and complained how irregularly they were served, and saying further that unless an alteration was made they would reduce their subscriptions to bare dominicals; the rector returned a peremptory order to the warden, with an injunction to his successor, (it being near Easter) to lock up the church, and suffer no service to be held therein; this was complied with, but the dispute was soon amicably terminated.

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71st year of his age, November the 2nd, 1672. Also of *Jane*, his wife, aged 66, who died July the 7th, 1670, after they had lived together in a sober profession of religion and dear affection 44 years. Also of *Benjamin* and *Jane*, their grandchildren; the latter died March the 6th, 1667, aged 3 years and 5 months; the other died December the 26th, 1668, aged 6 years and a half.

Benefactions.

The following benefactions have been bequeathed to the poor of this parish:—

Johanna Cole, widow, of *Bishop's Morchard*, A. D. 1640, gave £20, to the intent that it should be bestowed in some convenient parcel of land, the rents and profits arising from the same to be for ever applied towards purchasing linen cloth yearly, at Easter, for and towards clothing the aged and industrious poor of this parish.

Nowell Pearse, A. D. 1726, bequeathed to this parish ten shillings yearly, for ever, issuing out of an estate in the parish of *Allhallows on the Walls*, then in the possession of *Mrs. Jane Cosserat*, to be distributed to four poor men of this parish, at Christmas.

Esther Langworthy, A. D. 1729, gave to the Churchwardens of this parish £20, in trust, to be put out at interest, the yearly produce thereof to be for ever applied for providing shifts for six poor widows of this parish, at Christmas.

Ann Pitman, A. D. 1748, gave £10, to be put out on good security, the interest thereof to be for ever applied to purchase shifts for three poor widows of this parish, who shall duly attend divine service, and receive the holy sacrament, to be distributed yearly, on the 1st day of March.

Thomas Potter, Fuller, late of this parish, who died the 24th of September, 1695, by his last will and testament (besides divers other charities) bequeathed the sum of £735, to be by his executors bestowed in the purchase of lands in fee-simple, the rents and profits of which should for ever be equally divided among eight poor Tuckers or Weavers, inhabitants within the city and county of *Exon*, such as do not receive parochial relief, (except forty shillings per annum, which was to be expended in a dinner, by the trustees thereof, at the annual distribution of the said money;) also, that no person who shall receive the benefit of this donation shall again be a partaker thereof within five years after his so receiving the same. *Mr. William Baker*, executor of the said will, purchased a messuage and tenement, with the appurtenances, of the tenure of *Old Barton*, at *Rillwith*, in the manor and parish of *Ottery St. Mary;* and one close of land lying at *Langthorn*, on the north part of the *Greenway*, leading

towards *Arrill's Hays*, containing three quarters and half of an acre, or thereabout. Item. To *John Aymes* and *John Sheers*, both of this city, he gave forty shillings each yearly, during their natural life, to be paid out of an estate in *Farringdon*, in the county of *Devon*, called the *North Fields;* and the residue thereof unto *Edward Dally*, son of *Edward Dally*, one of the trustees, during his natural life; and after their decease the whole rents and profits were devised to the only use and behalf of the said eight poor men, in addition to the gift aforesaid. He also gave, on the 8th of December, 1694, two silver flagons for the use of the communion table. CHAP. VI.

Mary Rigg, widow, late of this parish, by will, dated the 12th of October, 1765, bequeathed £21, to be placed out at interest, and the profits arising therefrom to be annually bestowed in good wheaten loaves, to be distributed among the poor of this parish every Christmas-day; but no one person to receive a loaf exceeding a shilling in value.

Richard Bevys, Merchant, of this city, by will, dated the 16th of June, 1602, bequeathed an annuity of twenty shillings a year, for ever, to be paid out of his lands in the several parishes of *St. Mary the Moor* and *St. Sidwell*, for the use of such poor maidens as should be married in the said parish, after having served as servants to any inhabitant of this said parish for the space of two years, next and immediately before such day of marriage, which said money is to be equally divided among the claimants, if more than one.

Edward Bartlett, the elder, Sergemaker, of this parish, by will, dated the 25th of August, 1778, and proved the 29th of April, 1780, gave £10, the interest whereof to be divided among ten poor people of this parish, who do not receive weekly pay, on every New-Year's-day for ever. For which sum and interest due thereon, being omitted to be paid, *Mr. Edward Bartlett*, his son and executor, paid the Churchwardens £20, November the 3rd, 1790.

The hall belonging to the incorporated trades of Weavers and Fullers (commonly called *Tuckers' Hall)* is in this parish; it was originally a chapel, dedicated to one of the *Marys*, but since its dissolution it has undergone great alterations, and the only remains of its pristine state is the arched entrance and vaulted roof;* it is now divided into two large apartments, the under one being appropriated to a school, where a master, appointed by the elders of the corporation, has a salary for Tuckers' Hall.

* In all probability there was a cemetery belonging to this chapel, as many human bones have been dug up in the garden behind it; and, according to tradition, the small area in front, between the building and iron rails, has been used for the same purpose.

CHAP. VI. teaching the sons of freemen belonging to the hall reading, writing, and arithmetic, gratis. On the upper story is a large handsome hall, where the elders transact the business of the corporation; and also apartments for the schoolmaster. In this hall are some curious specimens of ancient warlike weapons, once the property of the company of merchant adventurers, now united to this corporation. They are possessed of several charities, which trust they carefully perform. They were first incorporated, under the common seal of this city, the fifth of *Henry* VII. 1490, which charter was again renewed the 44th of *Elizabeth*, 1602. The merchant adventurers trading to *France* were incorporated the 4th of May, 1556. The arms of the Corporation of Weavers, &c. is Party per Saltier, *azure* and *gules;* on the first, two shuttles, *or;* on the second, above, a brush, beneath, a pair of shears, *argent;* on a chief, *ermine*, a slea, between two burling irons, *or*. The merchant adventurers, in consideration of the loyal service of the Citizens, in defending the said city against the rebels, in the reigns of *Henry* VII. and *Edward* VI. were re-incorporated, by letters patent, dated the 17th of June, 1560, by the title of the Governor and Four Consuls, in consideration of which, the said company (then consisting of forty-nine persons) promised for themselves and successors to give and bestow to twelve poor and impotent men of the said city twelve frieze gowns, viz: to each of them one, at the feast of All Saints, for ever. This said charity is still continued by the Corporation of Tuckers and Weavers, but in lieu of gowns they receive coats.

In *Friernhay-lane* are some small unendowed alms-houses, built by the *Speke* family: they are now under the patronage of *James White, Esq.* of this city.

According to the last returns in this parish there were seventy-seven houses, five of them uninhabited, containing one hundred and seven families, in which were two hundred and thirty males and three hundred and ninety-one females, in all six hundred and twenty-one.

Allhallows on the Walls.

The next parish is *Allhallows on the Walls*, so called from the church having been situated on the city walls; it was demolished during the Rebellion, and nothing but the outer walls and tower left; these were taken down to complete the avenue to the New Bridge, and the road is now on the site of this ancient church. The tower, which was square, large, and lofty, was built of a reddish stone; and, from its situation, appeared to have been erected as an additional defence to the city walls; and it was converted to that purpose during the siege of the city by the Parliament army, the Royalists having placed a culverin on it, which greatly annoyed the besiegers,

and occasioned the demolition of the church, though the tower received very little damage. The only sacred remains belonging to this edifice are a very curious bible and some old communion plate, (most of it pewter;) these are annually delivered by the Warden to his successor in office. The presentation of this church, which was a rectory, in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, was valued in the King's books at £5 4*s.* 9½*d.* per annum, certified value £15. It is now united to *St. Mary Steps.*

Benefactions to the poor of the parish of *Allhallows on the Walls:—* Benefactions.

Elizabeth Buckenam (see the parish of *St. Lawrence)* bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of *Exon,* a house, &c. situated in the parish of *St. Petrock,* for certain charitable purposes; one of which was that they should pay and distribute annually, to five poor householders of this parish, 13*s.* 4*d.* viz: 2*s.* 8*d.* each.

Sir John Ackland, Knight, (among other charities to *St. Lawrence* and *St. Sidwell)* bequeathed the sum of £1 6*s.* to be equally distributed, sixpence weekly, in bread, to six poor inhabitants of this parish,

John Hurst, Esq. Merchant, late of this city, by will, dated the 16th of November, 1552, devised six tenements, lying in this parish, to be for ever appointed as alms-houses, for poor people to dwell in; he also endowed the same with six other tenements, a shop, and a stable, situate in the parish of *St. Mary Arches,* to the intent that the whole rents and profits arising from the same should be for ever appropriated towards the repairs of the said alms-houses; and that the residue of the said rents and profits should be equally divided among the poor inhabitants of the said alms-houses, for their better maintenance. He also gave 200 marks in money, to be paid to the said poor by 2*s.* weekly; also 20 marks towards the amending of the highways; and 20 towards the making of the haven; with other sums to pious uses. *

In the year 1800 the number of houses in this parish were eighty-nine, four were uninhabited; one hundred and fifty-seven families, consisting of three hundred and two males and three hundred and sixty-seven females, in all six hundred and sixty-nine.

The parish of *St. Mary Steps* joins *Allhallows,* being situate part within and part without the city walls. The church is small, and from its situation, at the foot of a steep hill, the floor is much elevated above the level of the street, from which, at the principal entrance, you ascend into the church by a flight St. Mary Steps.

* It is not mentioned who were appointed trustees of this gentleman's will.

CHAP. VI. of steps, and from this circumstance it obtained the adjunct appellation of *St. Mary Steps*. It is of a square figure, consisting of a nave, gallery, and small aisle under the tower; the whole (which is much to the credit of the parishioners) can scarcely be excelled for its clean and neat appearance. The pulpit is a fine piece of workmanship; on the top of the baldequin is a gilt statue of an angel, sounding a trumpet, well executed; the pews are neat and regular, and the altar-piece carved and painted. The tower, which stands at the west end, contains four small bells, and a curious clock, the dial of which is embellished with basso relievos, representing the four seasons; over the dial is a small statue of *Henry* VIII. in a sitting posture, which, on the clock striking the hour, bends forward its body at every stroke; on each side is a statue, in ancient military habit, their morions crowned with feathers; they hold in their right hands javelins, and in their left small hammers, with which they alternately strike the quarter hours, on two small bells placed beneath their feet. These figures are vulgarly called *Matthew the Miller and his two sons*,* and are much noticed by country people and strangers. Underneath the east end of the church is a vaulted room, (formerly a guard-house for the soldiers who kept the gate opposite) and a lodge for the porters.†

In front of the church was a stone bench, which extended from the watch-house to the entrance of the church, and supposed to be designed for the accommodation of the soldiers.

This seat being much resorted to by idle and disorderly persons obtained the name of *pennyless bench*, and at length becoming a public nuisance it was taken down, about the year 1757. Opposite the east end of the church is a narrow crooked lane, called *Parson's-lane;* at its upper end is a small ancient house, once the habitation of the rector, but now divided into two tenements for poor widows, who are placed there by the wardens of the parish.

* This *Matthew* was an opulent Miller, who resided at *Cricklepit;* he was remarkable for his integrity, and regular course of life; and his punctuality of going at one hour for, and returning from the city with, his grist, occasioned him to be so much noticed by the neighbourhood that they knew exactly the hour of the day by the time of his passing; and from this circumstance the statue received the name.

† Since the writer's memory the whole of the city gates were constantly shut during the night; in winter, from nine in the evening to six in the morning; in summer, from ten to five; also on Sundays, during divine service; which required the porter's attendance necessary to open them for occasional passengers, who, on a slight examination, were suffered to pass, by giving him a small gratuity for his trouble.

THE ANCIENT WEST GATE OF EXETER.

Opposite the church stands the *West-gate* of the city, a very ancient but mean structure, and inferior in point of architecture to the other city gates; it consists of a square tower, something loftier than the walls, without any projection on the outside, or flanking bulwarks; in this tower is an ill-contrived room, with a small window looking towards the suburbs; on the interior front is the remains of an inscription now obliterated: the entrance into the city is through an irregular pointed arch, and the whole has the appearance of remote antiquity; it has no insignia of arms or ornament remaining on it; and being now in a very ruinous state will, in all probability, be soon taken down. West-gate.

The ancient course of the river formerly ran much nearer to this gate than at present, and a branch from it still runs under the road at a few paces distant; the open space without the gate is called *West-gate-Quarter*, near the centre of which anciently stood a cross, called *Toisa's Cross*, long since demolished. *

Benefaction to the poor of the parish of *St. Mary Steps*:— *James Slade*, (sometime Sheriff of this city) by will, dated the 12th of July, 1672, bequeathed an annuity or yearly rent of £10 per annum, to be for ever issuable out of a dwelling-house wherein his brother, *William Slade*, then resided, as long as his estate remained therein. Benefaction.

The return of this parish was one hundred and one inhabited and four uninhabited houses, containing one hundred and thirty-eight families, in which were two hundred and ninety-eight males and four hundred and twenty-one females, total seven hundred and nineteen.

The last parish that remains to be described in this city and county is *St. Edmund*. The whole of this parish, which is situated without the walls, together with part of *St. Mary Steps*, forms the Manor of *Exe Island;* this Manor (as before mentioned) was the cause of long dispute between the ancient Earls of *Devon* and the Citizens, until it was given to the latter, and their right fully confirmed, by *Edward* VI. A. D. 1548. The whole of these lands appear to have been gained out of the river, as large stakes are often discovered in digging, and the soil to some depth consists of stratas of river sand and small pebbles. It is intersected by several branches and cuts from the river, very convenient for mills, dye-houses, &c. which occupy great part of it; and the inhabitants are mostly fullers, dyers, &c. The profits of the mills, tenter grounds, &c. bring in a great revenue to the Chamber. The church, which is St. Edmund

* At the head of one of the piers of the *Old Bridge* there was an ancient stone cross, curiously diapered; this cross was placed as a cutwater to preserve the pier; and probably might have been placed there after the Reformation.

CHAP. VI. situated on that part of the *Old Bridge* left standing, is dedicated to *St. Edmund*,* and consists of a nave and one aisle, with two galleries, one at the west end, and another over the aisle, extending the whole length of it, so that notwithstanding the smallness of the fabric it is capable of containing a large congregation. The aisle is separated from the nave by a row of clustered columns. The communion-table is enclosed by neat wooden balustrades; and the altar-piece well painted—the figures of *Moses* and *Aaron* are finely executed.† The pulpit is of good workmanship, and on the baldequin is the statue of an angel, very highly gilt. In one of the windows is the city arms, and in the others are some fine remnants of painted glass, and which, having been properly arranged on their re-glazing, have a very good effect. The panels in front of the western gallery are painted with armorial bearings; and those on the side gallery with figures of the Apostles. The tower‡ is small, and not very lofty; it is crowned with a small spire and vane; it has six bells, which, from their situation near the river, have a very pleasing sound; it also contains a good clock, with chimes. The whole of the decorations and furniture of this small edifice is kept in perfect repair, and in the neatest manner, the parishioners sparing no expence. The situation of this church, on the arches of the bridge, does not admit of any funeral interments; and the arch underneath it is now used as a cellar. It is a rectory, in the presentation of the Mayor and Chamber; valued in the King's books at £10 16*s.* 8*d.* per annum, certified value £28 10*s.* Present rector, *Rev. Richard Eastcott*.

The *New Bridge* crosses the *Island*, the level of which being much under that of the city it was necessary to elevate the road to a great height, and the communication from the bridge to the area below is by a long flight of steps, adjoining which is a lofty arch that communicates with *West-gate-Quarter* and the *Island*, (commonly so called;) this is an open piece of ground, railed round, gravelled, and surrounded with genteel houses: from this place there are several avenues to the

* This *St. Edmund* was a petty King of the *East-Angles*, who, in the year 871, bravely opposing the *Pagan Danes* that invaded his dominions, was by them defeated and taken prisoner, and whom they afterwards most cruelly murdered in cold blood, at *Hoxton*, in *Suffolk*; after which he was canonized, and held in great veneration by the *Anglo-Saxons*.

† This altar-piece was painted in the year 1755, by *Mr. Hooker*, an ingenious native of this city.

‡ In 1800, during a violent storm of thunder, this tower was struck by lightning, which shivered the dial to pieces, and forced some stones out of the foundation; but no other damage ensued, though several people were passing by at that instant.

Bonhay, a pleasant river island, regularly planted with lofty elms, forming agreeable walks, where, even in the hottest weather, the refreshing breezes from the river are highly exhilarating.

Just below the bridge the river forms another island, round which is a pleasant walk, capable of great improvements, if the number of them in the vicinity of *Exeter* did not make it unnecessary; this island is called the *Shilhay*, and is now full of racks, being used as a tenter ground. A scheme is now planned for cutting a canal through the *Shilhay*, and building a street, with large warehouses, for the better accommodation of the merchants, &c. This, if carried into execution, will greatly improve the Chamber's estates.

On the east end of the *Old Bridge*, *John Moor* and *Bartholomew Fortescue*, *Esqs.* founded three small alms-houses for the habitation of three poor persons, but it is not known that any endowment was ever made for their support; they left the government and nomination of the poor persons to be therein to the Mayor and Chamber, and their successors, for ever, as appears by an order made the 11th of March, 1520. These houses are still standing, and repaired by the Chamber.

According to the late returns there were in this parish two hundred and sixteen houses, of which ten were uninhabited; containing two hundred and eighty-three families, in which were four hundred and five males and five hundred and thirteen females, in all nine hundred and eighteen inhabitants.

Having completed the parochial description of this city, it will be necessary, before I proceed to those of the adjacent parishes, to give an account of such benefactions and legacies as have been bequeathed to the Citizens in general, and which have not been mentioned in the parochial description.

Benefactions to the Citizens in general.

General Benefactions.

John Talbot, *Esq.* (twice Mayor of this city) by will, dated the ninth of *Henry* V. 1420, bequeathed to the Mayor and Commonalty the reversion of a tenement, situate in the *High-street*, in the parish of *St. Martin*, opposite the Guildhall, then an Inn, called the Eagle; the rent of which was to be appropriated for ever towards bringing water to the conduits or cisterns of the said city, through pipes of lead, and to the repairing of the same.

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John Slugg, by will, dated the second of *Henry* VII. 1486, gave an annuity of twenty shillings yearly, to be for ever issuable out of a house in the *High-street*, sometime inhabited by *William Hurst*, Merchant, and situate below the Great Conduit; the said annuity to be bestowed in twenty dozen of bread, and given to the poor of the said city, on the eve of *St. John the Baptist*, yearly.

Thomas Calwoodley, *Esq.* (thrice Mayor) by deed indented, dated the 30th of April, sixth of *Henry* VII. 1491, did give and grant to certain feoffees, and their heirs, his Manor of *Awliscombe*, with all its rights, members, and appurtenances whatsoever, situate in the county of *Devon*, to the use of the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the city of *Exeter*, and their successors for ever, *in help and ease of the poor Citizens and inhabitants thereof, as well as fee farm rents due to the King, and of other payments, impositions, and taxes*, and other pious uses therein mentioned; all which the said King confirmed under his privy seal.*

William Obleigh, *Esq.* (sometime Mayor) by will, dated the 10th of August, 1510, bequeathed all his lands and tenements in *Swithen-street*, in this city, to *Robert Mayne* and *Catherine* his wife, and to the issue of the said *Catherine*, and for want of such issue to the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. of *Exeter*.

Thomas Andrew, *Esq.* (twice Mayor) enfeoffed *John Row*, *Esq.* Sergeant-at-Law, and *Sir Thomas Dennis*, *Knight*, with divers lands and tenements, situate in this city, to certain pious uses, as appears by his will, dated the 23rd of April, 1517, therein declaring that the sum of £14 yearly should be bestowed out of the said lands, by his executors, to find a chaplain, and to be distributed every year to twelve poor men, as in the said will was set forth; which will was proved in the Proctors' Court, at *Canterbury*, the 13th of December, 1529; and afterwards, for the better performance of the said will, *John Blackaller*, *Gent.* one of the executors, by deed, dated the 3rd of September, 1572, did give and grant to the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. their successors and assigns for ever, all those messuages, lands, and tenements aforesaid, with their appurtenances, to maintain and sustain twelve poor men, according to the contents of the said will, with a covenent from the grantees, that the grantor, his heirs and assigns, should receive the issues and profits of the said lands so long as he, his heirs and assigns, should in all things fulfil the said will. And afterwards *Sir Thomas Dennis* aforesaid, by his deed tripartite,

* This Manor of *Awliscombe* is now of considerable value; it produced, near sixty years since, £40 per annum, upon an average; and a well-informed gentleman assured the author that its present valuation is upwards of £12,000.

dated the 6th of September, 1594, enfeoffed and confirmed to *Gilbert Blackaller*, his heirs and assigns, divers tenements, in several parishes in this city, on condition of the said *Gilbert Blackaller* distributing yearly, out of the rents and profits of the said premises, one yearly rent or annuity of £14, to be employed and distributed yearly unto and upon twelve poor people, inhabiting within the said city, according to the true intent and meaning of the said *Thomas Andrew's* last will. And the said *Gilbert Blackaller*, for himself and his heirs, by the same indenture, did further give, grant, and agree to, with the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty, (the third party to the said indenture) that if the said annuity of £14, and every part thereof, should not yearly be paid to the said poor people, that then it shall be lawful for them to enter into the said premises and distrain, and the distress to detain until the same be paid for the end aforesaid; which said deeds remain in the Council Chamber of this city, and where the said will was also enrolled the 6th of November, 1531. That part of these lands was afterwards conveyed, by indenture, dated the 6th of October, 1608, by *Gilbert Blackaller* and others unto *Thomas Achym, Esq.* and his heirs, who for many years performed the said will, but afterwards failing a commission was sued forth out of the Court of Chancery, upon the statute of charitable uses, whereupon this agreement between the Commissioners and the said *Mr. Achym* was concluded, viz: that *Mr. Achym* should pay the arrears of the said gift, being the sum of £30, and that he and his heirs for the future should and would, fourteen days, yearly, before Christmas, pay unto the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty the said sum of £14, according to the will of *Thomas Andrew*, and the ends aforesaid.

John Gilberd, Esq. founded an alms-house near *Newton Bushel*, in the county of *Devon*, for the habitation of three poor lazar people, towards whose maintenance, by his deed tripartite, dated the 4th of October, 1538, he granted three cottages and two closes of land, in the parish of *Kingsteignton*, unto the Mayor and Commonalty of *Exeter*, and their successors for ever, in consideration whereof, and of the sum of two hundred and twenty marks to them paid, they covenanted to repair the said houses, and to pay the said poor therein the sum of £4 yearly, by quarterly payments.

Lawrence Atwill, Skinner, and Citizen of *London*, a native of this city, (descended from a genteel family, whose ancestors had often borne the office of magistracy, particularly his grandfather, who had been five times Mayor of this city, in the reigns of four successive Monarchs, viz: *Edward* IV. *Edward* V. *Richard* III. and *Henry* VII.) after repeated revolutions of

CHAP. VI. fortune, attained a great estate, which, in gratitude to the Almighty, who had thus blessed his endeavours, he (having no issue) by will, dated the 6th of November, 1538, (among many other legacies to charitable uses) bequeathed divers lands and tenements, situate in the several parishes of *St. Thomas the Apostle*, *Whitstone*, and *Uffculm*, in the county of *Devon*, which he had purchased in the name of *Thomas Spicer*, *Esq.* one of the Aldermen of this city, the high rents of which were then valued at £11 7*s.* 5*d.* per annum; appointing by his said will that these lands should be conveyed to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the city of *Exeter*, to the intent that out of and with the rents and profits of the same, there should be accumulated a stock of money, which, by the Mayor and Aldermen of the said city, for ever, should be employed in raising a stock, for setting and keeping the poor people of the said city in some kind of work or employment; and yet the money not to be diminished in any manner, but rather increased by the revenues of the said lands.*

Sir Thomas White, *Knight*, Merchant Tailor, and Citizen of *London*, (sometime Lord Mayor) a great encourager of learning, and liberal benefactor to the poor, among divers acts of charity, gave to the Mayor, Burgesses, and Commonalty of the city of *Bristol* £2000, for purchasing an inheritance of £120, yearly value, for ever, which rent he ordered and appointed by them to be paid and delivered unto the following cities and towns, one after the other, as they are named, who are to receive the same at Merchant Tailors' Hall, in *London*, every one of them £104, upon the feast-day of *St. Bartholomew*, between the hours of two and six in the afternoon, to be put forth to four young men of every of the said cities and towns, being freemen thereof, (clothiers always to be preferred before others) that is to say, to every of them £25, to have and to occupy the same for the term of ten years freely, upon good security for the repayment of the same; and then to be put out again to such others for the same time, and so on from ten years to ten years for ever; and after the said following twenty-four cities and towns, viz: first, *Bristol;* second, *York;* third, *Canterbury;* fourth, *Reading;* fifth, *Merchant Tailors;* sixth, *Gloucester;* seventh, *Worcester;* eighth, *Exeter;* ninth, *Salisbury;* tenth, *Westchester;* eleventh, *Norwich;* twelfth, *Southampton;* thirteenth, *Lincoln;* fourteenth, *Winchester;* fifteenth, *Oxford;* sixteenth, *Hereford;*

* This donation was for many years abused, and the lands alienated on long leases; in the year 1730 upwards of thirty years arrears were then in the hands of *Mr. Alderman Hickman*, the Accomptant; but in the year 1772 the Chamber erected and endowed twelve alms-houses, for decayed woollen manufacturers, with the stock and profits arising from those lands.—(See page 351.)

seventeenth, *Cambridge;* eighteenth, *Shrewsbury;* nineteenth, *Lynn;* twentieth, *Bath;* twenty-first, *Derby;* twenty-second, *Ipswich;* twenty-third, *Colchester;* twenty-fourth, *Newcastle-upon-Tyne,* have in their several courses received the said £104, then the same course to begin again at *Bristol,* as before, and so continue for ever; and the said £4 over and above the £100 are to be given to the surveyors of every such city or town for their care and pains to see the due execution thereof; provided that what city or town do make any default in observing this order, the same city or town to lose the benefit thereof for ever hereafter.*

Joan Tuckfield, widow of *John Tuckfield, Esq.* (sometime Mayor of *Exeter*) by will, dated the 14th of June, 1568, bequeathed several lands and tenements to charitable uses: first, to the Corporation of Tailors of this city, (as already mentioned;) also to twenty poor maidens a noble each. And whereas there were certain good debts due to her, to the value of £300, she appointed by the same will that the same sum should be paid to the Mayor and Receiver of the said city, to the Master and Wardens of the said Company of Tailors, and to the Governor and Treasurer of the Company of Merchant Adventurers of the said city, for the time being, or their deputies, to be employed for the following uses, that is to say: that on the 20th day of July yearly, for ever, they shall deliver the same unto such of the inhabitants and freemen of the said city as to them shall seem convenient, by £5 or more, under £20, for the space of two full years, by bond, paying 1*s.* for the same; and 20*s.* yearly to the said trustees, for their trouble, to be paid by her feoffees out of the said lands. Also, she gave to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the said city two tenements, the one in the parish of *St. Petrock,* then in the possession of *Mr. Nicholas Savery,* Merchant, and the other in *St. Stephen's* parish, then divided into two dwellings, one being in the possession of *John Gandy,* and the other of *Richard Reynett,* Barber, to this intent, that there should be given and delivered one hundred dozen of bread to the poor inhabitants of the said city and suburbs of the same, to the sum of £5, viz: fifty dozen in the week before Easter, and fifty dozen in the week before Christmas-day yearly, for ever, to be carried to the dwelling-houses of the said poor people, in the presence of the Mayor and Trustees; and £1 residue to

* *Exeter* received this donation in its turn, in the year 1802, and it was distributed according to the will of the donor; notice of its distribution having several times previously been advertised in the public papers, by order of the Chamber.—Signed, *H. Ley,* Town-Clerk.

CHAP. VI. the said Mayor and Trustees for their trouble. And afterwards, by her deed, dated the 31st of August, in the same year, she gave and granted to twelve feoffees, their heirs and assigns for ever, all those tenements and shops, with the appurtenances adjoining, in the parish of *St. Martin*, near the *Broad-gate*, then in possession of *Edward Spicer*, Goldsmith, *Nicholas Elwill* and *William Warren*, Confectioners, to the uses in a schedule annexed, specifying that the said feoffees, with the rents, revenues, issues, and profits thereof, should cause to be made and delivered to twelve poor women, inhabitants of the said city and county of the same, yearly, against the feast of Christmas, twelve frocks of frieze, apt and meet for their bodies; and yearly, against the feast of Easter, twelve smocks of new linen cloth, to be made and delivered unto them, or to such others, according to the distinction of the said feoffees; and that they shall yearly, at the following feasts, viz: the Ascension of our Lord, Pentecost, Midsummer, the Nativity of our Lady, and All Saints, distribute of the said rents 1*s.* to twelve poor women of the said city, at their discretion, viz: to every of them, at every of the said feasts, 1*d.* and so to do and continue for ever; and that an account be made thereof yearly, on the 20th day of October; and appointed £1 6*s.* 8*d.* for fees to the said feoffees. Also, that if any of them are not present at the settling of the said accounts, their shares, with all the other overplus of the said rents that shall then remain unbestowed, should be from time to time disposed and distributed among the poor people of the said city, as the feoffees shall think good, whereof the said feoffees are to be accountable.*

Alice Macey, widow, by will, dated 1578, bequeathed the sum of £50 to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of *Exeter*, to be lent unto poor tradesmen for three years, giving good security for the repayment.†

John Bettie, Dyer, of *Exe Island*, by deed, dated the 8th of March, 1569, granted to the Mayor, &c. and to their successors for ever, an annuity or yearly rent of £5, to be issuing out of certain lands, tenements, and hereditaments, lying in *Exe Island*, (late the inheritance of *Christian Chapman*, widow, deceased) being an Inn, called the Bell, then in possession of *Sabina Holder*, widow, and divers other tenements there, which were afterwards purchased by *William Martin*, *Esq.* as chantry lands, to be paid at the four most usual feasts

* This charity is but partly fulfilled.—*Rights and Privileges*, page 159.

† This is decayed.

of the year, by equal portions, with a condition therein contained, that if the said annuity should be behind hand, or unpaid in part, or in the whole, the grantor or his heirs should forfeit 10*s.* with power to distrain, as well for the said annuity as for the penalty. This grant was made to fulfil the will of *Christian Chapman*, as by several deeds made by her and her feoffees, still remaining in the Council Chamber, fully appears.

John Peryam, Esq. (sometime Mayor) by will, dated 1571, bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty the sum of 100*l.* to be lent, free of interest, to two young merchants of the said city for four years; and to continue so for ever.*

Thomas Prestwood, Esq. (who died during his Mayoralty) by will, dated 13th December, 1576, gave to the Corporation of Merchants in this city, the sum of 40*l.* either for building an alms-house for four poor people, or for providing some yearly rent towards their relief, which said poor persons were to be elected by the Mayor and Bailiffs of the said city for the time being.

Thomas Chappel, Esq. (sometime Mayor) by will, dated 22d August, 1589, bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. the sum of 30*l.* to be paid within three years after his decease, by instalments of 10*l.* yearly, on the 20th day of July, upon trust, that after the receipt thereof, the Mayor and Receiver, Governor and Treasurer of the Company of Merchants, and the Master and Wardens of the Tailors of the said city of *Exeter*, on the 20th day of July, should yearly deliver forth the same unto six inhabitants, freemen of the said city, as to the most part of them should seem meet, by £5 each, for three years, upon good sureties, as *Mrs. Tuckfield's* money is limited, and so to be continued for ever.

Joan Cleveland, widow, of this city, by her last will, dated the 24th of May, 1599, bequeathed as follows, viz: that out of her estate the sum of £20 should be yearly paid to the Mayor for the time being, upon the 20th of June next after her decease, and so to continue for ten years, until the sum amounted to £200, to be employed for the benefit of young beginners in trade, artificers of the said city, for ever; and that the Mayor should put out the money so paid in, to poor artificers, on the 20th of July, yearly, from year to year, putting in good securities for the repayment of the same, in such manner, and as nearly agreeable as possible, to the will of *Mrs. Joan Tuckfield*, deceased, (sometime her mistress;) and that £100 of the said £200 should be lent to poor Tailors; and the other £100

* This money was received, but not applied.—*Rights and Privileges.*

CHAP. VI. to other artificers; with provision that such as should have any of the said money should not receive less than £5 nor more than £10 each.*

Hugh May, Baker, of the parish of *St. Lawrence*, in this city, by will, dated the 16th of September, 1592, appointed that the Mayor and Bailiffs thereof should receive from his executors £60, and that the said Mayor, &c. with the consent of the Masters of the Corporations of Tuckers, Weavers, Shoemakers, and Haberdashers of the said city, should deliver the said £60 unto the poor artificers of the said Corporations, and not unto any other, by £5 or £10, and no more to one person; taking bond for every of them, with two or three sufficient securities for repayment of the same, at the end of four years after the delivery thereof; and for payment of sixpence in the pound, thirty shillings in the whole, yearly, as interest thereof, to the use of the poor of the said city, to be distributed to them, on the 24th of March yearly, either in money or victuals, at the discretion of the Mayor, by the hands of the Bailiffs, or one of them,—to be so continued for ever. And if the Mayor and Bailiffs should refuse or neglect to perform the same, within six months after his decease, then he willed that *Thomas Chase, Gent.* and *Jasper Horsey*, Merchant, should perform the same.

Peter Blundell, Clothier, of *Tiverton*, by will, dated the 9th of July, 1599, bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of *Exeter* £900, to be paid by his executors immediately after his decease, to be for ever continued to the uses following: £500 the said Mayor, &c. should for ever, on the Wednesday next after the feast of *St. Michael the Archangel*, put forth until the Wednesday next before the fourth feast of *St. Michael*, then also next following, that is to say, for four years (lacking six days) to twenty-five such poor artificers and handicraftsmen, of honest reputation, continued dwellers and householders within the said city, and suburbs of the same, as to the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty should be thought meet, that is to say, to each of them £20, taking good security, such as they will answer for, for the repayment of the principal, and also for £2 per cent. per annum as interest for the same; and if any decay should happen to be made, by death or otherwise, supply to be made with other assurance, as to the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. shall be thought proper. The other £400 to be lent unto twenty artificers, Weavers and Tuckers, of the town of *Tiverton*, and in default of such to others of honest trades, dwellers and householders in *Tiverton*

* This charity is not fulfilled.—*Rights and Privileges, page* 43.

aforesaid, in like manner as before in *Exeter;* the said £400 always to be delivered by ten of the inhabitants of *Tiverton* taxed most to the subsidy, to be nominated to the Mayor, &c. of *Exeter* aforesaid, twelve weeks at least before the day limited for putting forth the same, having good security; and then the same to be put forth to twenty such persons of *Tiverton,* as to the said Mayor, &c. should be thought proper, as aforesaid; and as for the £18 interest, to be received yearly, he willed that so long as there should be no decay of the said £900 the same should be employed as follows, viz: to the Town-Clerk 40*s.* for writing and keeping the accounts, (for that no premium should be taken from any party receiving any of the said stock, or fees for making his assistance;) and the £16 residue to the said Mayor, &c. for and towards their trouble in disposing and preserving the said stock; and towards a supper, always on the said Wednesday limited for the receipt of the said money, to be taken where they think fit; and towards one dinner to them yearly, on *St. Peter's-day,* in remembrance of him; and towards such other good uses as shall be thought proper; but when any decay shall be made of any of the said stocks, then to go to the supply of every such decay, until the said stock and stocks shall be made good again, and that course to be observed for ever. Further, that if the said Mayor, &c. should not accept the charge of the premises, that then his executors should discharge the same; and if any borrower should make default of repayment that then he nor any of his ever afterwards should have any benefit of the same; and that no *Baker, Brewer, Butcher, Tailor, Innkeeper, Vintner, Tanner, Ale Seller, or Seller of any kind of Wares,* should be capable of having any part of the said money.*

Christopher Spicer, Merchant, of this city, by will, dated the 17th of October, 1599, bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of *Exon* the sum of £100, to be paid by his executors, in three succeeding years after his decease, upon condition that they should deliver £40 of it to eight Weavers; £30 to three Butchers; and the remaining £30 to six Bakers, or other artificers, dwelling in the county of the said city, at the same time when they deliver forth *Mrs. Tuckfield's* gift; and the same course to be kept for ever; provided that if the said Mayor, &c. do refuse or neglect to perform this trust, then the

* This donation is not fulfilled. The author of the *Rights and Privileges of the Freemen of Exeter* mentions that he was then in possession of the Chamber Bond, given to his grandfather in the year 1688, for £500 of the said money.—*Rights and Privileges,* page 22.

CHAP. VI. said £100 to be paid to the Governor, Consuls, and Society of Merchants, to be disposed of as aforesaid.*

William Spicer, Merchant, likewise of this city, by will, dated the 1st of June, 1604, bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty £60, to be lent by £5 each, to twelve poor Weavers or Tuckers, inhabitants and freemen of the said city, in such manner as *Mrs. Tuckfield's* money is disposed of. †

Nicholas Spicer, Esq. (twice Mayor) by deed, dated the 3rd of March, 1609, granted unto twelve feoffees all his messuages, called *Slow*, otherwise *Slow Lake*, in the parish of *Halberton*, in the county of *Devon*, to hold to the said trustees, their heirs and assigns for ever, to the use of the said *Nicholas* and *Honor* his wife; and after their decease, upon trust for the payment of a yearly rent-charge of £20, unto *Eleanor Brayley* during her life; and twenty shillings worth of bread to be distributed to the poor people of this city, at or about the feast of Easter, at their houses; another ten shillings yearly towards the reparation of the parish church of *St. Mary Arches*, in this city; another ten shillings yearly towards the reparation of the parish church of *Halberton* aforesaid, for ever; and of £2 for the better maintenance of candlelight, in the dark nights, between the feasts of *All Saints* and the *Purification of the blessed Virgin Mary;* to be placed and set up in such convenient places of the said city as the Mayor and Aldermen should think fit, and to be kept burning from the hours of six to ten at night; and of 6*s.* 8*d.* yearly to the night bellmen, for ever; and during the life of the said *Eleanor*, for the loans from time to time of the residue of the issues and profits of the said messuages to such of the freemen of the said city as the Mayor and Aldermen should think proper, by £5 or £10 to each, for four years or under, on good security for the repayment of the same; and after the decease of the said *Eleanor*, for the disbursements for ever of the residues of the issues and profits of the said messuages, to such of the freemen of *Exeter*, as likewise by the Mayor and Aldermen should be thought fit, by £10 or above, to £21 to each, for four years, or for a less time, on good security for repayment as before; and also for payment

* This donation is decayed.—*Rights and Privileges*, page 144.

† Decayed also.— *Ibid.* It may be here mentioned that the decay of these and other considerable charities ought not to be attributed to the present members of the Chamber, they having been sunk through the negligence or avarice of their predecessors, for many years past; however, gratitude to the memory of those worthy and liberal benefactors to the wants of their poor fellow Citizens, and justice to the present age, impels me to give a just and correct account of such benefactions, as far as they have come to my knowledge.

of the fees following, viz: to the Mayor, yearly, £1; to the Recorder 10*s.*; to the Receiver and Stewards each 1*s.*; to each of the Feoffees that should be present at making up the accounts 10*s*; to the Sword-Bearer 1*s.*; to each of the Sergeants 8*d.*; to the Town-Clerk, for keeping the accounts 10*s.*; and to the Chamberlain 3*s.* 4*d.* for their trouble in and about the performance of the said trust, and procurement of an accompt yearly, for ever, on the 12th day of December, to be made; and afterwards, by his will, dated the 20th of August, 1629, he desired that his wife, every year after his death, during her life, on Good Friday, should deliver and give in bread £1 to the poor of *Halberton* aforesaid, and £1 to the poor of this city, to be continued by his feoffees for ever. *

Hugh Atwill, Clerk, in the year 1602, gave to the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. of this city, in trust, the sum of £6 13*s.* 4*d.* to be lent out to one or more artificers of the said city, for three years gratis, and so from three years to three years for ever. †

Jane Hewet, widow, of *Huxham*, in the county of *Devon*, by will, dated the 29th of September, 1603, bequeathed to the Chamber of the city of *Exon* the sum of £10, to be employed to such good uses as *Mrs. Joan Tuckfield's* money was; which said sum was paid in by *Thomas Pengelly*, her executor, the 20th of June, 1605.

Nicholas Hurst, *Esq.* of *Exon*, in the county of *Devon*, by will, dated the 22nd of June, 1604, bequeathed to the poor of this city the sum of £40, to be continued as a stock, and employed by the direction of his executor; which said bequest being for many years concealed from the Chamber, and the payment thereof delayed on demand, it was recovered on the statute of charitable uses, with £30 damages, for interest due thereon; the sum of £6 7*s.* 8*d.* was expended in its recovery; and the sum of £63 12*s.* 4*d.* remaining was duly brought into the Chamber, and paid to *Mr. Walter Borough*, the then Mayor.

John Pley, Merchant, late of this city, by will, dated the 23rd of May, 1609, bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. and to their successors for ever, an annuity or yearly rent of £5, issuing out of two tenements in *Lyme Regis*, in the county of *Dorset*, to be paid quarterly, by his heirs, in equal portions, with power to distrain if the annuity be unpaid for two months after being demanded, then the lands to be the property

* This property has been discontinued about eighty years; the rents whereof were then received by *Mr. Alderman Dewdney*, the then accomptant.—*Rights and Privileges*, page 148.

† Sunk upwards of sixty years.

CHAP. VI. of the legatees aforesaid for ever; to this intent that the said annuity of £5, or the said tenements, (the annuity being unpaid) and all the profits thereof, should be by the said legatees spent and employed only towards a lecturer, or preacher of God's Word, in the Cathedral church of *St. Peter*, in *Exeter*, or elsewhere in the said city, at morning prayer, or in the afternoon, or at both these times, upon the Sabbath-day; or towards erecting, founding, and maintaining an hospital within the county of the said city, at the election and choice of the said Mayor, &c. of *Exon*, for the time being, and to no other use whatever.

Sir John Ackland, Knight, of *Columb-John*, in the county of *Devon*, by his deed, dated the 2nd of January, 1609, gave to the Mayor, &c. of *Exon*, the sum of £66 13*s.* 4*d.* towards binding out fourteen poor boys, and six poor maids, apprentices, born in the said city and county of *Exon*, in such manner and sort as shall be thought by the said *Sir John Ackland* (during his life) and the said Mayor, &c. to be most fitting and convenient; and after his death by the said Mayor, &c. only, in such manner and sort as the said *Sir John Ackland* has already, or shall by his will and testament, under his hand and seal, set down and appoint, for the continual binding out of twenty such poor apprentices as aforesaid; five marks to be always delivered out with every apprentice boy to his master, and the like with every maid. And afterwards the said *Sir John Ackland*, by will, dated the 14th of September, 1609, confirmed the same; and ordered that the said apprentices, at the time of their binding out as aforesaid, should not exceed the age of fifteen years, and that at the end of the said term their respective masters should pay 20*s.* unto the said apprentices. Also, he enfeoffed certain members of the Chamber, in trust, with the rectory and sheaf of *Churchstow* and *Kingsbridge*, in the county of *Devon*, for and towards the purchasing of bread for the poor of the undermentioned parishes, in this city and county, viz: *St. Sidwell*, yearly, £2 12*s.*; *St. Mary Major* £2 12*s.*; *Holy Trinity* £2 12*s.*; *Allhallows, Goldsmith-street* £1 6*s.*; *Allhallows on the Walls* £1 6*s.*; *St. Lawrence* £1 6*s.* and to the Town-Clerk of the said city also, yearly, £1. Provided that if the Churchwardens of the several parishes do not bring in their several accounts yearly, to the Mayor and Recorder of *Exeter*, then the said parishioners are to lose their next year's pay, which, by the Mayor, Recorder, and two eldest Justices of the said city, is to be distributed to the two next adjoining parishes. He also bequeathed £16 per annum for the maintenance of two scholars in *Exeter College, Oxford*, to be appointed and approved of by the Mayor of the said city,

Recorder, Schoolmaster of the High School there, the Rector of *Exeter College* aforesaid, and the owner of *Columb-John*, or any three of them.

John Berryman, Gent. of *Bishopstawton*, in the county of *Devon*, by will, dated the 20th of November, 1614, bequeathed unto the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. of this city the sum of £100, upon good security, to be given to his executors, to the intent that they and their successors should from time to time lend the same to ten poor men, by trade Weavers or Tuckers, inhabitants of the said city, viz: to every one of them £10, taking good security for the repayment of the same: and that at the end of every year the said sum shall be received in, and again put forth in like manner for one whole year, and no longer, and so to continue for ever. *

Lawrence Bodley, D. D. one of the Canons Residentiary of this Cathedral, by will, dated 1615, devised as follows: I do will, and by this, my last will and testament, I give and bequeath to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the city of *Exeter*, the sum of £400, of lawful money of *England*, to be paid by my executors, within four months after my decease, to the use, intent, and purposes hereafter expressed, and herein set down; that is to say, my will and desire is that they with the £400 do, within one year after my decease, procure and purchase as much land in fee-simple as shall be yearly worth, for ever, the sum of £20, to be received for the continual and yearly maintenance of a sufficient preacher, within the said city, for ever, to be chosen by the said Mayor and his company of the Chamber of the said city, and by them to be always appointed to preach a sermon weekly, on the Sabbath day, for ever, in such convenient places, within the said city, as shall by them be procured, and best adapted for the edification of the Citizens; which said preacher so nominated shall have sufficient testimonials, either from the Bishop of the Diocese, or the Archbishop of *Canterbury*, of his conformity to the laws of the realm. This lecture was continued many years by the interest of the said £400, as a convenient purchase could not presently be met with; but afterwards, by the addition of £200 more, the donation of *Thomas Mogridge*, Merchant, of this city, the school and rectory of *Hennock*, with the vicarage there, were purchased for the uses above-mentioned, of —— *Southcott, Esq.*

Ralph Hamor, Merchant Tailor, and Citizen of *London*, by will, dated the 5th of August, 1615, bequeathed to the Mayor and Chamber of this city £100, to be by them lent unto two

* Sunk for upwards of sixty years.

CHAP. VI. young men, new beginners, using the trade of Merchants, to each of them £50, free of interest, for the term of seven years, only paying to the Town-Clerk 3*s.* 4*d.* for making out the bond, and putting in good security to the Mayor and Chamber for the repayment of the same, at the end of the said term; and if either of the parties to whom the said £50 shall be so lent shall die, decay, or depart this city, and reside elsewhere, within the seven years, that then in every such case the sureties shall repay and bring unto the Mayor and Chamber for the time being the £50, within two months next after such dying, decaying, or departing the city as aforesaid, whereby the same might be lent out in like manner, according to the intent of the said will. There was only £75 paid of this legacy by the executors of *Mr. Hamor*, and that part was recovered by the care and diligence of the then Chamber; which sum was lent for many years to two young Merchants, in equal portions of £37 10*s.* to each.*

William Martin, Esq. (sometime Mayor) bequeathed by will, dated the 20th of August, 1609, to the Chamber of this city £20, to be lent to two or four young artificers, from three years to three years, after the manner of *Mrs. Tuckfield's;* and that those who shall receive this £20 shall, on their first receipt, pay five shillings, to be divided as follows, viz: to the Mayor twelve pence; to the Receiver eight pence; to the Town-Clerk and Chamberlain sixpence each; to the three Stewards twelve pence; to the Sword-Bearer four pence; to the four Sergeants at Mace eight pence; and to the four Beadles four pence. †

Walter Borough, Esq. (twice Mayor) a great benefactor to the poor of this city, by his deed, dated the 28th of October, 1625, enfeoffed twelve members of the Common Council, and their heirs and successors, with certain lands and tenements in the parish of *St. Paul*, within the city of *Exon*, then of the value of £30 and upwards, to the uses following: that the feoffees and their heirs, with the rents, issues, and profits of the said lands, should yearly, for ever, against the feast of *All Saints*, provide and give to eight poor men, of the said city and county, eight gowns of good black cotton, and against the feast of Easter eight shirts; ‡ also £20 yearly towards the maintenance of the poor children in *St. John's Hospital;* and for the better performance of his said will he appointed that

* This donation has not been fulfilled for upwards of seventy years.—*Rights and Privileges*, page 83.

† This is also sunk.

‡ This part of the benefaction is now disused.

regular accounts thereof be kept and settled yearly, on the 20th of October, appointing one to receive the said rents, keep the accounts, and oversee the reparation of the houses, allowing him twenty shillings yearly for his trouble, and five shillings yearly to the Town-Clerk, for entering the said accounts in a book fairly, and seeing the same safely laid up; and to every one of the members of the Common Council, for subscribing his name, one shilling. And when the said feoffees should be reduced to four, a new assurance should be made to twelve others of the said Common Council, and so to continue for ever. He also, by his will, dated March, 1630, (besides other charities) bequeathed £30 to the poor of this city; £30 more to thirty poor housekeepers; £100 to purchase lands, the yearly profits of which he devised should for ever be appropriated to the benefit of the poor of this city, and distributed in bread, beef, wood, or coals, against the feasts of Christmas and Easter; £100 more towards erecting and endowing a free Latin Grammar School in the said city; £10 more towards bringing water to the conduits thereof; £120 to the Company of Merchants, to be lent to six persons, free of the said city and company, £20 to each, for three years; 20 marks to twenty poor maid servants, for their better preferment; and £10 more towards the reparation of the highways; he likewise presented to the Chamber four muskets, with their rests, and four corslets, with their head-pieces.

Rebecca Borough, widow and relict of the said *Walter Borough*, during her lifetime, (already mentioned) gave the sum of £200 to *St. John's Hospital*; and also, by deed, dated the 1st of October, 1649, granted unto twelve trustees all that tenement, called *Nadder*, in the parish of *Whitstone*, in the county of *Devon*, reputed a parcel of the Manor of *Hallesford*, subject to a lease for four hundred years, at the yearly rent of £20; and also one annuity or yearly rent-charge of £10, issuing out of the said premises, to the following uses: that the trustees, and the survivors of them, out of the rents, issues, and profits of the said tenement, should yearly pay and distribute to and among six or more honest housekeepers, of the said city and county, either old men, and such as by casual means are become poor, or young men of honest life and conversation, such as are natives of the said city or county, or that had honestly served an apprenticeship in the same, being industrious to live, but not having wherewith to prefer themselves, such reasonable sums of money whereby every such person might be enabled the better to maintain himself and family, not exceeding the sum of £5, nor less than £3, to any such person, as the free gift of the said *Rebecca Borough*, according to the trustees' discretion, and so far as the said rents will extend to, and no further, (all necessary charges in and about

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the execution of the said trust, or the defence and maintenance of the title of the land, first deducted and allowed.) No person who has had the benefit of the said gift is to have the same again within six years after; nor is it to be disposed of but by the major part of the trustees subscribing their names. A new feoffment to be made from time to time by the four surviving trustees, for perpetuating this pious and charitable work.*

John Peryam, Esq. (sometime Mayor of this city) son of the aforementioned *John Peryam, Esq.* by deed, dated the 20th of October, 1616, did covenant that before the feast of *St. Andrew the Apostle* then next ensuing he would pay and deliver to the Mayor, &c. the sum of £1000, lawful money of *England*, (and a silver bason and ewer) to be ordered and disposed of by them for ever, in such manner as should be declared by him in a schedule annexed, which the said Mayor, &c. covenanted to perform, faithfully, and without any partiality; and by the said schedule he ordered the said bason and ewer to be for ever preserved to the use of the said city; and that the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. should retain to themselves £100, part of the £1000, for payment of the city debts, or otherwise, as they should think fit. He also requested that £100, heretofore bequeathed by his father, might be added to the £900 residue; and that upon *St. Andrew's-day* then next following, and so for ever afterwards, upon the said day in every year, the £1000 should be lent to five Merchant Adventurers, trading beyond the seas, (not to shopkeepers, trading by retail) and free of the city and Corporation of Merchants there, inhabitants thereof, especially unto them of the meaner sort, that were born, or had been apprentices therein; not excluding any that should be decayed in his estate by losses at sea, (except he had been a bankrupt, or had lavishly spent his estate, or compounded with his creditors for less than he was able to pay;) no person who had been married, or was a widower, except he had one child or more; nor any person that had declined trade for the space of two whole years or more next before to receive the said loans: each of the said merchants to receive £200, and to find three sufficient sureties to the satisfaction of the Mayor, Recorder, and Common Council, or the major part of them, and to be bound in double the sum for the repayment, on the 24th day of November, in the third year following, and such other conditions as they shall think fit; no one to be

* The will of the donor of this charity is strictly fulfilled by the present trustees; and the money is annually distributed in the week before Christmas.

accepted as a surety but for £200 only, and no one that has the loan of £200 to be capable of receiving it again at the next putting forth: every person that has the 200*l.* is to pay, on receiving the same, to the Warden of the Magdalen, without the *South-gate*, £5 6*s.* 8*d.* for its use the first year, and to give bond, with one good security, for the payment of the like sum on the 24th of November in each of the two latter years, amounting in the whole to £26 13*s.* 4*d.*: that the said Warden, by the advice and consent at least of two Justices of the Peace of the said city, shall from time to time disburse and lay out 20*l.* thereof yearly, for relieving such sick poor people, inhabiting within the said city, and in the parishes of *St. David*, *St. Edmund*, and the *Holy Trinity*, as cannot, by reason of their great poverty, relieve themselves; and also for easing and curing such poor people so inhabiting, who, by any casual accident, should break any bone, dislocate any joint, receive any bruise or hurt, or be grieved with any ulcer, cancer, dangerous sore, or the like; the same to be continued only during the time of such sickness or impediment. And the same Warden shall keep a regular account of his receipts and disbursements; and in every year, on the 24th of November, shall he produce the same, fairly engrossed on parchment, subscribed with his name, and present it in the Council Chamber, to the Mayor, Recorder, and Common Council, or the greater number of them, whom he entreated to be present at the time, giving power to the Mayor and Recorder to appoint deputies. The said *Mr. Peryam* also appointed the following fees to be then paid, viz: to the Warden, for his trouble, £1 12*s.*; to the Mayor (next before the settling the account) 10*s.*; to the Recorder 10*s.*; to the seven Justices of the Peace each 6*s*; to the Town-Clerk and Chamberlain each 3*s.*; to the rest of the Common Council £1 10*s.*; and to the Sword-Bearer and four Sergeants at Mace 8*d.* each. And if any of those be absent at the time of settling the said accounts they are to be mulcted of their pay; and the surplus, if any, to be delivered over to the succeeding Warden of the Poor, as aforesaid.*

Sir Richard Lawdry Bauncraft, (killed in the service of *Charles* I. and who was married to *Susanna*, widow of *Nicholas Martyn*, *Esq.* sometime Mayor) by his will, dated the 15th of

* The produce of this great and eminent charity was for many years received by *Alderman Hickman*, who kept the Magdalen accounts; and there was, in the year 1736, a considerable sum in his hands, to the amount of several hundred pounds, unaccounted for.—*Rights and Privileges*, page 134.

CHAP. VI. August, 1642, bequeathed to the poor of *Exeter* £100, to be paid by his widow and executrix, within twelve months after his decease. This money being detained, and the bequest concealed for many years, his executrix, after being applied to for the same, agreed to pay the money unto the Chamber of *Exon*, on condition of its being employed as *Mr. Peryam's* money was. *

Thomas Walker, Esq. (twice Mayor) by his will, dated the 20th of November, 1628, gave to his executors £400, in trust that they therewith should, in one year after his decease, procure from the Mayor and Common Council of the city one annuity or yearly rent-charge out of the city lands, of such yearly value as they shall agree on; and in default of such agreement, then to bestow the said £400 in lands, and convey the same unto the said Mayor and Common Council, or such others as they shall appoint, to and for the uses hereafter mentioned, and no other, that is to say: the one moiety towards founding, erecting, and yearly endowing a free Grammar School within the said city, whereby the children of freemen might be freely instructed in the Latin tongue; and the other moiety to be employed yearly towards the relief of the poor people of the aforesaid city, in such manner and to such purposes as the yearly gift of *John Peryam* was used, with a desire to the Mayor and Common Council that the same might be accepted, paid, and ordered by the Warden of the Magdalen and Justices of the Peace, in all things as *Mr. Peryam's* was; and an account thereof to be yearly given, on the 24th of November; and for the writing and regular keeping of the said account he ordered that the Town-Clerk of the said city should receive an annual rent-charge, fee, or pension of ten shillings, to be for ever issued out of his tenement situate in the parish of *St. Mary Arches*, to be paid annually, upon the 24th day of November. †

James Tucker, Esq. (sometime Mayor) by will, dated the 10th of June, 1643, bequeathed to the Chamber £100, to be laid out in land; and the annual profits accruing therefrom to be for ever appropriated to the benefit of the sick and needy, especially to those who accidentally break their limbs, or are incapacitated from labour through lameness; and he devised, as the parishioners of *St. Sidwell* are deprived of the benefit of *Mr. Peryam's* and *Mr. Walker's* gifts, the whole of the profits

* This money was never applied to any charitable use.—*Rights and Privileges*, page 101.

† The moiety of this £100, to be applied as *Mr. Peryam's* gift was designed, has been sunk for sixty years, or upwards.

of the said legacy he bestowed on the poor of the said parish; and also that some charitable member would keep the account for them, to be made out on paper, without any cost or charge; and the benefit of this £100 to be paid out by a note under one or two Justices hands; the said money to be paid unto the Chamber within six months after his decease.

Thomas Ford, Esq. (late Mayor) by will, dated the 11th of May, 1659, devised as follows:—Item. I give and devise unto the Chamber of *Exeter* £250, to be employed towards erecting and settling an Hospital, for the maintenance and curing of poor, sick, lame, and wounded persons, inhabitants of the city and county of *Exeter*, who have no means or friends to help and assist them in their sad conditions; and towards the payment of a Physician, Surgeon, and Nurses, to attend the said poor people, until they shall be cured or recovered, according to the manner and order of *St. Thomas's Hospital*, in *Southwark*. The said money to be paid within twelve months after my decease; and after the payment, until the said Hospital shall be erected, to be lent out, and the profits thereof to be employed in such manner as *Mr. Peryam* and others have ordained several sums of their gifts.*

Richard Evans, Esq. (late Mayor of this city) by his will, dated the 30th of March, 1659, devised as follows:—Item. I give unto the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the city of *Exeter*, for the time being, and their successors, the sum of £500; I say £500 to be added to *Mr. Peryam's* gift, upon this trust and confidence that they the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty, and their successors for ever, shall lend the said monies to honest and frugal artificers of the city and county aforesaid, upon good security, under the common interest of money, not exceeding £100 to one man, for three years; which profit of employment so to be taken shall be given to such poor people of the city and county aforesaid, from time to time, as two Justices of the Peace of the said city shall sign and appoint; and the accounts thereof to be made at the same time and place, yearly, as *Mr. Peryam's* are; and that there shall be expended and taken yearly to every Common Councilman then present, signing the said accounts, 1*s*; and to the Town-Clerk, for making out the said accounts, 6*s*. 8*d*. This £500 to be paid by my son *Nicholas*, his executors or assigns, within one year after my decease. Provided always, that if I pay in the same,

* No such Hospital having been erected for many years after this donation was made the money was sunk.—*Rights and Privileges*, page 67.

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or any part thereof, by any other means during my lifetime, then my intent and purpose is that so much of the £500 as shall be so paid, or secured to be paid, shall cease to all intents and purposes. I have secured £300, part of this legacy, to be paid by *Giles Moore*, the younger, in my lifetime. *

Robert Walker, *Esq.* (sometime Mayor) by will, dated the 10th of February, 1663, bequeathed to the Mayor and Common Council £100, to be paid within a year after his death, and to be bestowed in lands, within six months after they shall have received the same; and the yearly issues and profits to be employed in such manner and to such uses as the moiety of the gifts of *Thomas Walker*, his father, deceased, has been, and is employed, for the benefit of the poor.

Catherine Gifford, widow and relict of *Thomas Gifford*, *Esq.* of *Halesbury*, by will, dated the 10th of March, 1665, bequeathed unto the poor of *Exeter* the sum of £100, to be kept in stock or store by the Chamber of the said city, and by them to be so employed that the yearly profit or benefit of it might be bestowed on six poor widow women of the said city, such as my executor, *Nicholas Leach*, shall think fit: and the said £100 to be paid to the Chamber as soon as my executor shall receive the money now due to me from *John Gifford*, *Esq.* of *Halesbury*, which money was accordingly brought in. †

William Bruin, Merchant, late of this city, by will, dated the 4th of April, 1675, devised as follows:—Item. I give to the Mayor and Aldermen of the said city £100, to be by them bestowed in and about the new-erected workhouse of the said city, and to set the poor therein to work; which said legacy is to be paid within six months after my decease.

Nicholas Broking, *Esq.* (sometime Mayor) by will, dated the 5th of October, 1666, bequeathed unto the Mayor and Common Council, and their successors for ever, the sum of £400, for and towards purchasing some lands of inheritance, of the yearly value of £20, to them and their successors for ever, for such ends and uses as are hereafter expressed, that is to say: to the end that any two Justices and Aldermen of the said city, for the time being, shall dispose of the rents and annual profits of the said lands, for ever, to such poor, sick, weak, and impotent persons of the said city as the said Justices shall think fit; and my will further is that before the

* This money was paid into the then Chamber, but never applied according to the will of the donor; and not a farthing interest given to the uses directed. —*Rights and Privileges*, page 63.

† This charity has been decayed for upwards of seventy years.

said £400 shall be laid out and bestowed in the purchase of lands as aforesaid, that £20 yearly, for the interest and profits thereof, should be employed by the said two Justices and Aldermen for the relief of the said weak, sick, and impotent persons, of the said city, in manner aforesaid; also he devised that just accounts of the distribution and profits of this legacy be kept in such manner and form as those of *Thomas Walker* and *John Peryam* are appointed to be made and kept in their several respective wills, in reference to the gifts and bequests to the said city. He also bequeathed £100 to be distributed at the discretion of his executors, immediately after his decease, to such poor people of the said city and county as they should think fit.*

Elizabeth Dowrich, widow and relict of —— *Dowrich, Esq.* of *Dowrich*, in the county of *Devon*, by her last will, gave to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of this city the sum of £100, to be bestowed in land, and the profits thereof, computed at £5 per annum, to be distributed as *Walker's* (her father) gift is; one moiety thereof to the poor people who are sick, maimed, or hurt, at the discretion of two Justices of the Peace of the said city, by a note under their hands; the other moiety towards erecting and maintaining a free Latin Grammar School, within *St. John's Hospital*, in this city.†

John Bury, Clerk, one of the Canons Residentiary of the Cathedral of *St. Peter, Exeter*, by will, dated the 15th of June, 1667, devised as follows:—Item. I give and bequeath £10, to be distributed the day after my funeral, among the poor of my parish of *St. Mary Michael*, alias *St. Mary the Moor*, within this city, who have weekly pay towards their relief; and that I may return some farther tribute of thankfulness to my most gracious God, for his singular goodness towards me, that if, within twenty years after the date of this my will, there shall be founded, erected, and established, within the parish of *St. Sidwell*, in the county of the said city, a convenient and sufficient Workhouse, wherein all the poor people of that parish, that shall be able to work, shall be maintained therein, and kept to work, then, and as long as the employment shall be continued, I give, devise, and bequeath unto the Master, Governor, Steward, Treasurer, or Receiver of the said Workhouse that shall be so erected, by and within the time aforesaid,

* Lands were purchased with this £400; the profits of which were, in the year 1732, received by *Alderman Hickman*, but not applied according to the will of the donor.—*Rights and Privileges*, page 37.

† The first £50 moiety of this gift has been sunk upwards of seventy years.—*Rights and Privileges*, page 60.

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John Martyn, *Esq*. (late Mayor of this city) by will, dated the 15th of October, 1669, bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of *Exeter* £400, to be paid by his executor, in one year after his decease, in good and lawful money of *England;* and if it shall happen that in the said time the said £400 be not paid unto the said Mayor, &c. that then it shall and may be lawful for the said Mayor, &c. to enter and take possession of two pieces of land, in the parish of *St. Thomas the Apostle*, commonly called *Wood Meadows*, and the inheritance thereof to be theirs for ever; and the interest and profits arising from the said £400 should for ever be appropriated towards binding out poor children, natives of this city and county, apprentices, at the discretion of the Mayor and Justices of this city of *Exeter*.

Philip Whitrow, by will, dated the 10th of May, 1592, bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the city the sum of £16, to be by them disposed of and lent out to four poor artificers, in equal portions of £4 each, they giving good security for the repayment thereof at three years' end, on the 20th of June, that the same might be again disposed of to others for the like term; and in this manner the said benevolence is to be continued for ever. *

Christopher Lethbridge, *Esq*. (sometime Mayor of this city) a great benefactor to the poor, as already related, † among other benefactions, by his last will, dated the 17th November, 1669, gave to the Mayor and Common Council of the said city,

* Decayed.

† See *Lethbridge's* alms-houses, page 380; and the parish of *St. Mary Arches*, page 386.

and their successors for ever, all his messuages, lands, tenements, rents, annuities, and hereditaments whatsoever, with the appurtenances thereunto belonging; and all his part, property, and portion of his messuages, lands, tenements, and hereditaments situate lying and being in the several parishes of *St. Thomas the Apostle* and of *Newton Abbot*, in the county of *Devon*, or either of them, or which are issuing and payable to him, his heirs, executors, or assigns, out of any messuages, lands, or tenements, lying in the said parishes, or either of them: in trust, nevertheless, that they the said Mayor and Common Council, and their successors, shall for ever hereafter dispose of the rents, issues, and profits of the said premises in such manner as is hereafter expressed, that is to say: £6 thereof to be yearly, for ever, employed and disposed of in such manner as the gift of one *Peryam*, deceased, (sometime one of the Aldermen of the said city) is disposed and employed; also, £15 12*s.* of the said rents for a yearly endowment of his new-erected alms-houses, in the parish of the *Holy Trinity*. He also willed and ordered that one honest person be appointed to collect the rents of the said premises, and to dispose of the same according to his will, allowing him, for his trouble in keeping and passing a fair account thereof to the Mayor and Common Council, a salary of forty shillings yearly, for so long a time as he shall continue so to do: also, that the Mayor, and such members of the Common Council who should be present at the settling and passing the said accounts should receive one shilling each; and the Town-Clerk, if also present, two shillings and sixpence; also, that the residue of the yearly rents and profits of the said premises, after the said alms-houses being repaired, and other incidental charges of the said premises being discharged and paid, shall be for ever yearly paid to the Governors of *St. John's Hospital*, in the said city, towards the maintenance of one or more poor boy or boys there, or for the binding out of apprentices from thence, at the discretion of the Governors. He also bequeathed to the poor of the city and county of *Exeter*, who had weekly relief, £40, to be proportioned to each parish according to the number of their poor, by his executors in trust, to be distributed at or soon after his funeral, by the several Overseers of their respective parishes. Also, to one hundred tradesmen of the said city and county, having each a wife and child, or children, £100, to be equally divided between them, and paid within one year after his decease; desiring that six or eight of the said poor men might be nominated from *St. Mary Arches'* parish, by the Mayor and Common Council.

CHAP. VI. In 1676 *Mr. Robert Phipps*, Merchant, of *Exeter*, left by will £30 per annum to trustees, for the relief of ten poor tradesmen of the said city, to be distributed annually, in £3 to each, to provide such tradesmen with a set of tools; or a small sum which, if well improved, would contribute towards the support of themselves and families, and, by degrees, render them useful members of the community. The present trustees are *William Kennaway, Esq.* the *Rev. James Manning*, and *Mr. Pope.**

PARISHES ADJACENT TO EXETER.

St. Thomas. *St. Thomas the Apostle.* This parish is contiguous to the city, being separated from it only by the river *Exe*, over which is the New Bridge; but it is and ever was independent of the city government, being a parcel of the county of *Devon*. The part nearest to the city consists principally of three streets, leading to different roads, the longest of which has a westerly direction, and is termed *Cowick-street;* that to the south is named *Alphington-street;* and the other branches nearly north, and, from being the road to, is called *Oakhampton-street;* in these streets are many good houses, and large shops; and were it not for its vicinity to *Exeter* this parish would appear as a large country town.

The church, which is situate on the south side of *Cowick-street*, is large and well built, consisting of a nave, chancel, a large aisle on the south side, and a smaller one on the north; it is neatly pewed, and has a large convenient gallery. The tower, which is at the west end, is embattled and lofty, with a small spire; it contains a good peal of six bells, a clock and dial.

Before the Reformation the parish church was the priory church of *Cowick;* but the inhabitants in general resorted to a chapel, situate near the river, dedicated to *Thomas á Becket*, Archbishop of *Canterbury:* this chapel being situate in a damp marshy spot, much subject to inundations of the river, the inhabitants petitioned for a removal, † which being complied

* This trust is annually performed.

‡ According to tradition the site of the ancient chapel was in *Ford's* garden, near *Gouldshays;* the angle of a stone wall, with some foundations, were lately visible near the edge of the river.

with, the new erected edifice was dedicated to *St. Thomas the Apostle.**

According to *Bishop Stafford's Register* the first parish church was erected about the year 1418.

There are several monuments; and upon the walls are fixed several banners, achievements, and armorial trophies, chiefly of the families of *Gould*, *Buller*, and *Northmore*.

The following inscriptions are mostly deserving notice :—

Against the south wall is a large stone monument, badly executed, on which is this inscription :—M. S. *Hicjacet corpus* Thomæ Northmore *armigeri* Johannie Northmore *(de* Well *in parochia* South Tawton, *in hoe comitatu generosi semper fidelis) filii legis consiliarii et senatus Britaniei nuperdecoris; qui tres duxit uxores, videlicet* D.nam Pridham, D.nam Andrews, & D.nam Saint Aubyn; *ex prima genuit binas filias quarum altera moritur tenella, altera superstes hoe mausolæum posuit, ut gratitudinis officiiq; pignus in mortuum charissimumq. patrem; qui obiit die* 25 *Julii, annoq domini* 1713.—*En veterem senatorum ecclesiæ, patriæ et coronæ fidelem qui nunquam suffragium vendidit nec male lulit suum; ad augustiorem fæliciorenеq: senatum migrasse speramus: ubi deus ipse (plaudentibus cælicolis) omnipotenti manusceptrum tenet.*

Near this monument is a small decorated white marble tablet, bearing this inscription :—*Sacred to the memory of* Mrs. Fanshawe, *whose excellent understanding, unfeigned piety, exemplary virtue, happily blended with the most amiable and domestic endowments, rendered her loss a sore affliction to her surviving friends. She was the wife of* Charles Fanshawe, Esq. *Barrister-at-Law, and daughter of* John Seale, Esq. *of* Mount Boone, *in the county of* Devon, *by* Elizabeth, *daughter of* John Fownes, Esq. *of* Netherway, *in the same county, and, with two of her children, viz:* Elizabeth Maria, *aged two years, and* Robert Henly, *aged six months, lie interred in the vault beneath.*

Against the same wall is a very elegant marble monument, on which is this just eulogium to the memory of *James Buller, Esq.* of *Shillingham,* in the county of *Cornwall,* and *Downes,* in the county of *Devon,* who departed this life February 11th, 1772, aged 31; and *Husey,* his wife, who died September 26th, 1768, aged 31.

The cherub, charity, in their hearts enshrin'd,
" Breath'd faith in God, and love to all mankind,"
Taught them to soothe the pangs of deep distress,
To melt at others grief, to pity, and to bless.

* The fair or revel is still held on the Tuesday after the 7th of July, that day being dedicated in our calendars to *Thomas á Becket.*

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Lov'd and lamented, in life's smiling bloom,
They sunk resigned, and found an early tomb!
Their days benevolence and peace endeared,
Their nights congratulating conscience cheer'd;
And all their prospects bright'ning to the last,
Their heaven commenc'd ere this vain world was past.

On the north wall of the nave there is a large monument, enriched with sculpture, and bearing this inscription:—

H. S. E. Gulielmus Williams, M. D. *virartis suæ singulari scientia præditus.—Quid prastitit, si quaras, eorum testentur Cachrymæ quorum valetudini dum nimis studiose inserviebat ipse suam perdidit, Mortemque. acceberavit.—Obiit* V. *Kelend: Maii, anno* MDCCXL. *Ætatis suæ* 59.—*Mærens filius natu maximus pro pietate qua patrem clarissimum coluit, hoc marmor memoriæ saerum esse voluit.*

And against the south wall of the chancel is fixed a marble monument, on which is inscribed:—*Sacred to the memory of* Mrs. Elizabeth Williams, *relict of* William Williams, *of the city of* Exeter, M. D. *who departed this life the* 25*th of June,* 1776, *aged* 77 *years. She was the daughter of* Joseph Oliver, *of* Exwick, Esq. *and the last of that respectable family. In her were united the christian and the social virtues; the best of parents, a sincere friend, a cheerful companion, and a liberal benefactress to the poor. In the same vault are interred* John, Oliver, William, Benjamin, William, *and* Bridget, *sons and daughter of the above* William Williams, *and* Elizabeth *his wife.* Anne, *relict of* Samuel Newte, *of* Tidcombe, *Clerk;* Eliza, *relict of* David Hamilton, *of* Bristol, *Merchant;* William, *son of* David Hamilton, Esq. *and* Bridget *his wife; in dutiful respect and affectionate regard caused this monument to be erected, in the year* 1781.

This parish is a vicarage, formerly belonging to the Priory of *Cowick;* it was granted, at the Reformation, to *John Lord Russell,* in which family it continued through a long descent. The present patron is *James Buller, Esq.* Incumbent, *Rev. John Bradford Copplestone.* First fruits, £11 2*s.* 8½*d.* Yearly tenths, £1 2*s.* 3¾*d.* *

* During *Cromwell's* usurpation marriages were performed by Justices of the Peace. The following curious extract is taken from the parish register of that time:—"*On the* 31*st of March,* 1657, *were married* Richard Hooper, *of this parish, Woolcomber, and* Elizabeth Baker, *servant to* Richard Bulford, *of the parish of Alphington, Spinster, by the Right Worshipful* John Quick, Esq. *and Justice of the Peace for this county.*" The same register gives an account of nine other marriages in the same manner, from the aforesaid 31st of March to the 12th of September following.

Near the church are several small habitations for the aged poor, who are maintained by the parishioners; but we do not find that they have any other endowment. Near the *Moreton* Turnpike is a large and convenient *Workhouse*, where the aged and orphan poor are comfortably provided for; their appearance in general is much cleaner and more healthy than that of others on similar foundations.

Lunatic Asylum.

It is with great pleasure we mention another public and charitable institution, the *Lunatic Asylum*. Of all the calamities incident to human nature no one is more deplorable than the deprivation of those exalted faculties that more especially distinguish man from the animal creation. Every species of this disorder produces a degree of distress peculiarly humiliating, makes the most forcible appeal to our best feelings, and calls for our deepest compassion. To place such objects under the care of skilful Physicians, and the protection of gentlemen who shall be influenced by the most benevolent motives, is a benefit to society, and a great relief to private families. With these views subscriptions were began about the year 1795; and in 1800 a neat mansion called *Bowhill-house* was purchased, just without the *Moreton* Turnpike, and converted into an *Asylum for Lunatics*, on account of its local situation, peculiarly calculated for the four western counties; but patients are admitted from any part of the kingdom, on very easy terms, proportioned to their ranks in life. It was opened the 1st of July, 1801, but containing only about fifteen wards it was found necessary to erect a large additional edifice adjoining the old one, and capable of containing about thirty-five wards, with correspondent offices, the first stone of which was laid on the 29th day of March, 1803, by the *Rev. James Manning*, the Vice-President. The institution has been liberally encouraged by the friends of humanity, and promises to be a permanent and comfortable asylum for the distressed and distressing part of the community. The institution is managed by a President, Vice-President, and Treasurer, with a Committee, elected annually, of ten Governors, benefactors of ten guineas each; also a Physician, who attends at least twice a week, and oftener if called upon; and a Surgeon when occasionally required. The house establishment consists of an Apothecary, a Keeper, and Matron, three men and four women servants. By the fourth annual report, to the 30th day of June, 1805, it appeared that eighty-nine patients had been admitted since the opening of the house, whereof 46 had been discharged cured; 2 went to their friends on trial; 4 went out with benefit, at the request of their friends; 3 were discharged as improper objects; 8 deceased; 26 remained in the house, 20 much recovered, and 6 not worse than when admitted; total 89.

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In *Cowick-street* is the *Bridewell* for the county of *Devon;* this is a large ancient building, strong and well calculated for the purposes to which it is appropriated, having received of late years great and additional improvements; the Governor has a convenient house and large gardens; a Clergyman and an Apothecary are appointed by the Justices of the county of *Devon*, and have handsome salaries for their attendance on the prisoners. This building seems to have been erected in the fourteenth century, and, according to tradition, was a mansion-house, belonging to *John Holland*, Duke of *Exeter*, and converted to its present use in the reign of *Elizabeth*.

Almost opposite to the Bridewell stands the *Sheriff's Ward*, or Prison for Debtors for the county of *Devon;* it is surrounded by a lofty stone wall, enclosing a green plat of ground planted with lofty elms; the building, though large in itself, is ill adapted to the convenience of the numerous debtors of this extensive county, as they are too often crowded together in a miserable and filthy manner; and, as no donations have been bequeathed to this prison, nor any subsistence allowed by the county, they are frequently driven to the greatest distress, and, to the disgrace of humanity, unable to procure even the common necessaries of life.

At the western extremity of *Cowick-street* is an ancient house, called, according to *Sir William Pole*, from its situation below the hill, *Bowhill*. This building bears evident marks of antiquity, and has a desecrated chapel remaining. In the reign of *Henry* VI. it was the residence of *Richard Holland, Esq.* whose grand-daughter, *Thomasin*, by marriage with *John Carew, Esq.* of *Anthony*, brought it into that family, many of whom resided here in great affluence, till the male issue failing it came, through *Sawle*, &c. to *John Graves, Esq.* Captain in the royal navy, whose property it now is.

To the west of *Bowhill* is *Barley*, an elegant house, situate on an eminence, commanding an extensive prospect of *Exeter*, and the adjoining county. It was built by *John Pinnock, Esq.* to whom the estate came by marriage, together with *Bowhill, Higher Barley*, and *Cocklesford*,* and is now the residence of *John Graves, Esq.*

South-west from *Bowhill* was the ancient Priory of *Cowick*, founded by *Hugh Courtenay*, Earl of *Devon*, but very little of the building is now remaining; the present edifice (converted into a farm-house) appears, from the style of architecture, to have been erected since the Reformation, soon after which its fine church was so effectually demolished that its site cannot now be ascertained; in this church several of the noble family of

* Part of *Bowhill, Higher Barley*, and *Cocklesford* were purchased by *Charles Collyns, Esq.* Banker, of *Exeter*.

the *Courtenays* were buried, particularly *Hugh Courtenay*, Earl of *Devon*, who died the eighteenth of *Edward* I. and his lady; the estate round the house is considerable; the land rich, abounding with fine timber, and from several parts commanding fine views; at the foot of the lawn, before the house, is a very fine spring, which flows in a deep sedgy bottom, formerly a fish pond; at the head of this spring human bones have been found, from whence it has been conjectured that the church stood near this spot. This Priory was a cell to the Abbey of *Tavistock*, and at its dissolution was granted to *Francis, Lord Russell*, in whose family it continued for many descents, since which it became the property of *Mrs. Speke*, of *Tidwell*, who left it by will to its present possessor, *James White, Esq.* of *Exeter*.

Near *Cowick* is *Franklin*, a neat pleasant house, commanding a fine prospect, the grounds well wooded, forming beautiful avenues; it is at present the seat of *Charles Fanshawe, Esq.* Recorder of *Exeter*.

On the eastern side of the *Plymouth-road* are some remains of an ancient mansion house, named *Floyer's Hayes*, the habitation of a family of the name of *Floeru*, or *Floyer*, from the Conquest to the latter end of the sixteenth century. They held these lands from the Earl of *Devonshire*, by half a knight's fee, on condition "that whensoever this Lord, the Earl of *Devon*, cometh into *Exe Island* the tenant for the time being is to come seemingly apparelled, with a napkin about his neck, or upon his shoulders, and a pitcher of wine, and a silver cup in his hand, and shall offer his Lord thereof to drink." This estate is now the property, by purchase, of *Thomas Templar, Esq.*

Near this are the remains of another ancient mansion, formerly named *Heighin*, sometime appropriated to maintain a Prebend in the collegiate church of the blessed *Virgin Mary*, within the Castle of *Exeter*, by the name of the Prebend of *Hayes*. After the Reformation it was purchased by *John Peter, Esq.* Customer, of *Exeter;* and was afterwards sold by his grandson, *Sir William Peter, Knight*, to *William Gould, Esq.;* it is now the property of *James Buller, Esq.*

South-east from *Hayes* is *Marsh Barton*, situate in a deep fenny soil, surrounded with ditches; here was a small Priory of Black Canons; some part of the building still bears the appearance of antiquity. After the dissolution it became the property of —— *Coffin, Esq.* of *Portlege*. Part of the chapel of this small religious house was taken down by *Mr. Coffin*, the proprietor, and the timber and stones given towards the rebuilding of *St. Paul's* church, in *Exeter;* the estate at present belongs to *James Buller, Esq.*

On the west side of the parish, near the river, stood a large mansion, long the seat of the opulent family of the *Goulds*, and

CHAP. VI. from whom it took the name of *Goulds'-hays;* not the least vestige of this ancient seat of English hospitality is now remaining—a large barn and deep pool near retain the names of *Goulds' Barn* and *Goulds' Pond;* the latter formerly a fish pond. Near this house the ancient *Roman-British* road, from the *West-gate*, crossed the river, (the ford being still visible) from whence it took a westerly direction, up an enclosed lane, called *Greenway-lane*, (where vestiges are still plainly to be seen) by *Cleave-house*, to the *Oakhampton-road*.

On *Red Hill* is a neat new-erected villa, commanding a delightful prospect of the city, river, and adjacent country, built by *John Dennis, Esq.* Alderman of *Exeter*.

Further west is *Cleave*, a neat mansion, situate on an eminence, having extensive views of variegated country; it has long been the residence of the *Northmore* family. Behind this is a neat villa, called *Little Cleave*, the property also of *Thomas Northmore, Esq.*

Further up the river is the village of *Exwick:* this hamlet took its rise from the fulling and grist mills long established there; a leat being cut from the river, below *Cowley Bridge*, they are constantly supplied with a stream of water. In this hamlet *Edmund Granger* and *Samuel Banfill, Esqrs.* have established a large woollen manufactory, and erected spinning machines, workshops, dye-houses, tenter grounds, &c.; also dwelling-houses for the manufacturers, an establishment which has greatly increased the number of inhabitants; here is *Exwick House*, once the residence of the family of *Oliver*, from whom it came by marriage to *William Williams, M. D.* of *Exeter;* it was the residence of his widow for many years, whose heirs sold it, with the Barton, to the present proprietors of the manufactory. It is now the residence of *Samuel Banfill, Esq.* the directing partner of that extensive concern. The walk from *St. Thomas*, by the river side, to *Exwick*, is in summer exceedingly pleasant.

Between *Cowley Bridge* and *Exwick* is a neat cottage, built on the edge of a clift, hanging over the river; underneath are waving walks cut out of the rock, and beautifully overhung by trees and coppice wood, in a most romantic manner: the roaring of the river below, over an artificial weir, the hanging cliffs, &c. are very pleasing; this cottage was built, and the improvements to the natural beauties of the spot designed, by *John Merivale, Esq.* of *Barton-place*.

The hamlet or tithing of *Oldridge*, though at the distance of six miles from the church of *St. Thomas*, belongs to this parish; it consists of five estates, containing about 453 acres; and the Manor belonged for several generations to the family of *Trowbridge*, who sold it to the *Yardes*. To accommodate the

St Leonard's Old Church.

inhabitants, situate at such a distance from the parish church, a chapel of ease was maintained in this hamlet time immemorial, but was destroyed by *George Trowbridge, Esq.* of *Trowbridge;* the stones were carried to *Trowbridge* to repair a kitchen, and the communion table was made a drinking board in a neighbouring ale-house:* but the want of a chapel in this detached part of the parish having been long complained of a handsome one was erected at the joint expence of *James Buller* and the late *Giles Yard, Esquires.*

According to a return made by *Mr. Chappel* in 1778, the number of families in the town part, near the church, and within the turnpikes, was three hundred; without the turnpikes, and detached farm-houses, (exclusive of the villages of *Exwick* and *Oldridge,* those in the alms-houses, prisons, and workhouse) fifty-nine, in all three hundred and fifty-nine families, which, allowing six to a family, make two thousand one hundred and fifty-four inhabitants.

Saint Leonard.

St. Leonard. This parish is situate south-east of the city, on the road to *Topsham.* The church, which is on the right hand of the road, is built on an eminence, and is very small, consisting of a nave and small chancel; it has no tower, the bell being hung in a turret; the whole has the appearance of great antiquity, and is probably the remains of a larger edifice, as at the west end are vestiges of a circular stone staircase; the interior is plain and neat; the windows are open only on the south side, those on the north being filled up. On the north wall is a handsome monument of white marble, to the memory of *Mr. Collings,* of *Parker's Well;* and in the churchyard is an altar tomb, the sides of which are decorated with white marble tablets, on which are carved, in relief, different degrees of sickness; and on the cover stone is this inscription:—

Depositum Wilhelme Musgrave, *Med. Doc.* Rici. Musgrave, *de* Nettlecombe, *in comitatu* Somerset, *Filii natu tertii Medico. rum* Londinensi *e Regia Societate et e Coll. Regali nuper e Novo Collegio Oxon. Practici Exoniensis non infelicis Natus est* 4to. *Novbris.* A. D. 1655. *Obiit* 1721. *Hic jacet etiam Uxor ejus* Philippa, Wilhelmi Speke *de* Jordan prope Whitelackington *Filia, Quæ obiit Nov.* 24. 1715. *Ætat. suæ* 55.

From the burying-ground there is an extensive prospect. During the grand Rebellion this was fortified by the Parliament army, which effectually blockaded the city on this side, and greatly distressed the Royal garrison; and it is probable the church was much injured at that period.

* The village historians positively relate that the family of *Trowbridge* never prospered after this sacrilege; and that all those concerned in it, particularly one who had the chapel bell for his trouble, died miserably.

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This parish is a rectory, exempted from the Archdeacon's jurisdiction, valued in the King's books at £4 19*s.* 9½*d.* per annum, certified value £34. Patron, *John Baring, Esq.* Present Rector, the *Rev. Gayer Patch.*

A small brook divides the county of *Devon* from that of *Exeter.* On this brook is situated (a part in both counties) the ancient house of *Larkbear,* mentioned in Doomsday-book by the name of *Laurocbeare:* the front has been modernised, but the remaining parts have much the appearance of a religious edifice of remote antiquity. * It was for many ages the seat of the family of *Hull,* who sold it to *Sir Nicholas Smith;* afterwards it was in the possession of the *Vowlers,* Merchants, of *Exeter;* and a daughter in that family brought it, by marriage, to *Mr. Baring,* Merchant, father of the present *John Baring, Esq.;* it is now the property of *Charles Baring, Esq.* There are large press-shops, packing-rooms, linhays, tenter-grounds, and all other conveniencies on the demesne for finishing woollen cloths. Great mercantile concerns have been carried on here for more than a century.

Opposite *Larkbear House* is a large neat house, with extensive gardens, built by the late *Matthew Lee, Esq.*

On the hill above *Larkbear* is the spacious mansion of *Mount Radford,* delightfully situated, and commanding extensive prospects. This house was built by *Lawrence Radford, Esq.* whose son, *Arthur Radford,* sold it to *Edward Hancock, Esq.* whose daughter brought it, by marriage, to *Sir Amias Bampfylde, Knight;* after his decease she was married to *Sir John Doddridge, Knight,* one of the Justices of the Court of King's Bench, who resided there for some years. In 1628 it was in the possession of the family of *Duck,* as —— *Duck,* Recorder of *Exeter,* died there in that year. His descendants lived there in high reputation till they became extinct, by the death of *Richard Duck, Esq.* without issue, in 1695.

About 1750 it was the residence of *Mr. John Colsworthy,* Merchant, who, from repeated losses at sea, becoming bankrupt, the house and demesne was purchased by *Mrs. Baring,* of *Larkbear;* and it is now the property and residence of her eldest son, *John Baring, Esq.* Justice of the Peace for the county of *Devon,* and, in several parliaments, one of the representatives for the city of *Exeter.* He has greatly improved the house, almost to a rebuilding; he also greatly added to the demesne, laid open the grounds around it, planted numbers of trees and shrubs, altered the road, and

* There is a tradition that a subterranean passage communicated from this house with the Cathedral; to corroborate which is shewn an ancient pointed archway opening into the ditch, through which the brook passes under the house.

built a pallisadoed arch over it, by which an easy communication is made to the church and the adjoining grounds; in short, this splendid mansion is now as complete and desirable a residence as any in the county. CHAP. VI.

A little to the south-east of *Mount Radford* is a neat and pleasant villa, built on a gentle eminence by *Henry Weymouth, Esq.* Merchant, of *Exeter*, and on the site of a smaller house, which was long the residence of the family of *Collings;** it is called *Parker's Well*, from a noted spring that issues from under the bank into a square bason.

Near *Trew's Weir* has been established of late years a manufactory for cottons: the buildings are very extensive; the machinery is worked by a large water wheel, which is supplied by a canal cut from the river; many dwelling-houses have been erected near the manufactory for the accommodation of the workmen and their families, which has added greatly to the number of the inhabitants of this parish.

The ancient Priory of *St. James* was partly in this parish, an account of which has been already mentioned.

A branch of the ancient and respectable family of *Drewe* had a mansion-house in this parish, where they resided for several generations, till they became extinct. The last was *John Drewe, Esq.* who had twenty children by *Agnes* his wife, the daughter of *Watkin York*, of *Exeter;* but they all died without male issue.

The last parish to be described is *Heavitree*, anciently called *Woonford.* It is situated east of *Exeter*, the church being about one mile from the city; it is dedicated to *St. Michael;* is large and regular, about ninety-eight feet in length, and its extreme breadth sixty-five feet; it consists of a nave, two aisles, a chancel, and large gallery; the roof is supported by eight clustered pillars, four on each side, the capitals decorated with coarse carvings of angels and foliage; the chancel is separated from the nave by a neat gothic screen; and the altar-piece is wainscoted in panels, on which are painted the Lord's prayer, the creed, and different texts of scripture; on each side of the chancel are apertures in the walls, supposed to have been made to enable those who sat at the extremity of the aisle to see the elevation of the host in the *Romish* service. The font has, from the coarseness of the carving, strong marks of antiquity. The tower, which is square and low, contains four small bells. There are only two monuments in this church; one is against the north wall of the aisle, on which is the following inscription: Heavitree.

* This house has lately been purchased by, and is now the residence of, *Robert Sproule, Esq.*

CHAP. VI. Near unto this place lyeth the body of *Sebastian Isacke*, of *Polsloe*, *Esq.* who departed this life on the 8th of November, 1688.

The other monument is a plain white marble tablet, fixed against a pillar on the south side of the nave, and bears this epitaph :—

Near this place are interred the bodies of *Ambrose Rhodes*, *Esq.* of *Bellair*, in this parish, who died the 1st of March, 1777, aged 72. And of *Sarah*, his beloved wife, (sole daughter of *Solomon Andrew*, *Esq.* of *Lyme Regis*, in the county of *Dorset*, deceased) who died the 22nd of August, 1783, aged 73. And of *Mary*, their daughter, who died the 17th of November, 1760, aged 24.

On a grave-stone in the chancel is the following quaint inscription :—

Here lyeth the bodyes of *Thomas Gorges*, of *Heavitree*, *Esq.* and *Rose* his wife. He departed this life the 17th of October, 1670; and she the 14th day of April, 1671.

The lovinge turtell havinge mist her mate
Beg'd shee might enter ere they shut the gate ;
Their dust here lies, whose soules to heaven are gonne,
And waite till angells rowle away the stone.

The present vicarage house is neat and pleasantly situated, with a good glebe around it. It was built by the *Rev. John Snell*, Canon-Residentiary of the Cathedral of *Exeter*, and the Vicar of this parish, in 1728.

This parish is a peculiar, belonging to the Dean and Chapter of *Exeter*, and to which are annexed the daughter churches of *St. Sidwell* and *St. David*, in *Exeter*. The first fruits £34 6*s.* 8*d.*; yearly tenths, £3 8*s.* 4*d.* Present Vicar, the *Rev. George Moore*, Archdeacon of *Cornwall*. Proprietors and Patrons, the Dean and Chapter of *Exeter*.

The ancient name of this village, which gives name to the largest hundred in the county, evidently points it out to have been of importance in early times. *Woonford*, or *Wonford*, is supposed to have been a contraction of the British, *avon*, a general name for all rivers; but it does not seem probable that this name should be given to an insignificant brook ; neither is the alteration of *avon* to *woon* similar to the practice of our ancestors; and we find a river in this county named, by some authors, *Avon*, now named *Aune*. It seems probable that its true name was *Wodensford;* the present contraction, *Wonford*, being similar to *Wodensdike*, now *Wonsdike;* and *Wodensberig*, now *Wonsborow*, from the idol, *Woden*, so much in repute with our *Saxon* ancestors.

The present name of *Heavitree* it is conjectured was derived

from its being the common place of execution for malefactors, signifying the heavy or sorrowful tree.

According to *Sir William Pole*, *Henry* I. gave the hundred and manor of *Wonford* to *Geoffry de Mandeville*, Warden of the Castle of *Exeter*, who gave it in marriage with his daughter to *William Fitz-John*. It came afterwards by descent to *Henry de Tilly*, from whom, on his rebelling against his Sovereign, King *John*, his Majesty seized the Manor, but after some time restored it to *Robert de Mandeville*, a descendant from *Geoffry:* it became then part of the possessions of the *Montacutes*, Earls of *Salisbury;* after them of the *Courtenays*, Earls of *Devon*. And on the decline of that noble family the Manor was purchased by *Mr. Walrond*, of *Tiverton*, from whom it descended to the *Kellys;* and, in the year 1773, *Arthur Kelly*, *Esq.* sold it to its present possessor, *John Baring*, *Esq.* of *Mount Radford*.

The summit of the hill between *Exeter* and *Heavitree* was anciently the place of execution for the county of *Devon*, before the removal of the gallows to *Ringswell*. This place is named *Liverydole*, from the magistrates and citizens, in their Midsummer watch and other public processions, dressed in their livery gowns, dispensing here their alms to the poor, formerly termed a *dole*—hence, *Liverydole*.

On this spot, after the execution of *Mr. Bennet*, for heresy, in the reign of *Queen Mary*, *Sir Robert Dennis*, *Knight*, founded a chapel and alms-house, in the year 1591, which was finished by his brother, *Sir Thomas Dennis*, *Knight*, in 1594, and liberally endowed by him.

From *Sir Thomas Dennis* the patronage of this charity came, by marriage with *Anne*, one of his daughters and co-heiresses, to *Sir Henry Rolle*, of *Stevenstone*, in whose descendants it has ever since continued; the present patron being the *Right Honourable John Lord Rolle*, of *Bicton*, who laudably fulfils the trust, keeping the buildings in perfect repair, and punctually paying the chaplain and alms-men. Present Chaplain, the *Rev. Richard Eastcott*.

From this chapel, on an easy descent to the village of *Heavitree*, (properly so called) on a gravelly soil, are erected several small neat houses, in a delightful situation, both for prospect and air; and if, through the interposing hand of providence, a lasting peace might be procured, it is very probable that in the course of a few years the village of *Heavitree* will be united by buildings to the city of *Exeter*. In the village itself are several good houses, many of which are let out in lodgings, occupied by the Citizens, for the benefit of their health, the air being thought very pure and salubrious.

CHAP. VI. From the village to the hamlet of *East Wonford* is near half a mile, on the great *London* road, where are many houses dispersed, some of them neat buildings, of modern erection. At *East Wonford* are likewise several good houses, one of which is of ancient date, and has for many generations been the residence of the family of the *Pines*. The brook has its course near this hamlet, and over it is a stone bridge, of two arches, repaired by the county; near it is a continual spring of fine water, which, from an iron ladle formerly fastened by a chain to the wall, for the benefit of passengers drinking, it obtained the name of *Iron Dish;* here it was customary for the unfortunate culprits conducted to execution to stop and drink. From *East*, the rivulet directs its course to *West Wonford*, through beautiful meadows, and a serpentine course glides near the chapel of *St. Eligius.** This very ancient edifice was a few years since entire, consisting of a nave and chancel; and, from some remains of the decalogue, painted on the eastern end, it appears to have been used for sacred service since the Reformation; it has long been desecrated, and its revenues appropriated to the relief of the poor. The building has been of late years much neglected, and from want of necessary repairs the vaulted roof and one side fell very lately into ruins; the remains are now converted into a stable.

Near this is a cot-house, patched up from old materials; and some part of it appears of age coeval with the chapel; probably it was the habitation of the officiating priest. The yard was decorated with lofty elms, of ancient growth, which gave a gloomy shade to the whole. This sequestered spot, its beautiful meadows, and the meandering brook, overhung with undulating hills, clothed with ash and other trees, were very happily chosen to inspire the mind with religious contemplation.

The hamlet of *West Wonford* was evidently of greater note and extent than it is at present, as it gives name to the hundred, and as the ancient *Roman* road passed through it from *Harpford Bridge:* it now consists of detached farm-houses and cottages, many in a decayed state, and the ruins of others visible; the removal of the great western road hastened its decline, and gave rise to the present *Heavitree.*

West Wonford House is a large old stone mansion, and was long the residence of the family of *Atkins*, (two of whom were Judges;) it is now the property of *Mr. Spicer*, of *Mount Weir.*

The ancient Nunnery of *Polsloe* was situated in a detached

* This chapel is called, in *Bishop Stafford's Register*, "*The Chapel of St. Clement and St. Elidius;*" and in *Bishop Brentingham's*, "*St. Eligius's Chapel, at Wonford.*"

part of this parish, a mile and a half north of the church; it was founded by *Bishop Brewer*, in the year 1236, who endowed it with the Manor of *Polsloe* and other lands.

At the dissolution the house and manor were granted to *Sir Arthur Champernowne*, who exchanged it for *Dartington;* it was then purchased by *John Peter, Esq.* Merchant, of *Exeter*, in whose family it continued for several descents; it became next the property of the *Izackes*, and now belongs to *Montague Parker, Esq.*

There are still some remains of the ancient building, particularly the west end, which, though patched up with modern repairs, retains strong vestiges of its gothic state; the principal entrance was through a pointed arch, now walled up.

The chapel was demolished by *Colonel Sebastian Izacke*, and its site is not to be ascertained. The Manor is at present divided into different farms, whose houses, garden walls, &c. clothed with ivy, have a ruinous and antique appearance. There are several gentlemen's seats in the detached parts of this parish, the principal of which are the following:—

Coaver, near *Mount Radford*, is a small neat house, pleasantly situated on the *Topsham Road*, late the residence of *John Stephens, Esq.*

Bellair, contiguous to *Coaver*, is a neat villa, belonging to the *Rev. Mr. Rhodes;* both of these houses have pleasant lawns, enriched with plantations of trees and shrubs, and extensive prospects.

Northbrook, the property of *Daniel Hamilton, Esq.* of *Exeter*, is a neat mansion, greatly improved by its present owner; it is beautifully situated in an extensive paddock, one side of which is bounded by a branch of the river *Exe*, and through the grounds the brook from *Wonford* meanders in view of the house.

Stoke-hill House, a neat modern villa, belonging to *Joseph Sanders, Esq.* of *Exeter*, is delightfully situated about half a mile north-east of the city; it commands a fine prospect of the estuary of the *Exe*, and the surrounding country; from a barren waste, overrun with furze and fern, the proprietor has greatly improved the surrounding lands, and rendered them fruitful and pleasant.

Ruxham (anciently named *Dunscomb*, from the British, *dunum*, a hill, and *comb*, a valley) is a large farm on the heights of *Stoke*, anciently belonging to the Priory of *St. Nicholas*, in *Exeter;* it is now the property of the *Marchioness* of *Donegal*, and rented by *Mr. John Land*, of *Exeter*. From different parts of this estate are very extensive prospects, the grounds undulating from lofty hills to deep vallies; and a fine

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spring of water meandering through the lower grounds renders it capable of great improvement.

Ringswell lies to the east of *Heavitree* village, near the place where lately stood the gallows: here was formerly a large mansion, granted, in the reign of *Henry* III. by *Robert de Mandeville*, to *Nicholas Gervaise*, of *Exeter*, whose son, *Sir Walter Gervaise*, gave it in marriage, with his daughter, *Alice*, to *Sir William Speke*. The said *Sir William Speke*, with the consent of his wife, granted the same to *Sir John Wiger*, of *Creedy-Wiger*, reserving to himself and his heirs £5 yearly rent. Part of this Manor afterwards became the property of the *Prydhams*, of *Exeter;* and by an heiress of the *Prydhams* came to the *Whitings*. It belongs at present to *Edward Cotsford, Esq.* who purchased it of *Gregory Jackson, Esq.* of *Exeter*.

Madford, situate west of *Heavitree* church, is the remains of an ancient mansion, the residence of *Ralph de Basco*, in the reign of *Henry* III. Afterwards it was the seat of *Lord Dinham*, from whom it descended to *Sir George Smith*, who erected a spacious house there, (the remains of which are now converted into a farm-house.) From the *Smiths* it became the property of *Phineas Cheeke, Esq.* of *Exeter*, on whose decease it came, by marriage, to *William Mackworth Praed, Esq.* who sold it to the late *John Stephens, Esq.* of *Coaver*.

Whipton, anciently written *Wapon*, is a hamlet and manor, at the north-east extremity of the parish; it has long been in the possession of the family of the *Bampfyldes*, of *Poltimore*, and is now the property of *Sir Charles Bampfylde, Bart.*

APPENDIX.

An Acte for the Enlarging the Liberties of the Citie of Exceter, 2d and 3d Edward VI.

Humblye sheweth unto youre mooste excellent Majestye youre obedyente and loving subjects the Mayo Bayliffs and Comynaltie of your Citie of Exceter that where of late sovaigne lorde of famous and moste worthie Memorie Kinge Henry the viij Father yor. Highnes by his mooste gracyous Lres Patents under his great Scealle of Englande bearinge date the xxiij daye off Auguste in xxxth yere of his mooste noble raigne for the Love Zealle and ffavor. whiche he have towards his lovinge subjects the Mayors Baylyffs Comynaltie of his sayde Citye of Exceter and also towardes the sayde Citye did not onlye ratyfie and confirme all such grauntes as were by hyme or any of his noble pgenytors gyven and granted unto the Mayors Bayliffs and Comaltie of the sayde Citye or any of the Inhabitants thereof But also by his sayde Lres Patents of a more larger benyvolence did erecte ordeyne constitute and make the sayde Citie to be a Countye in yt selffe clearely seperated and devyded from the Countye of Devon and for the better mayntenance of the same did gyve and graunte unto the sayde Mayor. Bayliffs and Comynaltie and to their successors dyvers and sundrye Jurysdiceyons preheamynences liberties ffraunchesses and Privileges to be exercysed and within the sayde Countie of the sayde Citie of Exceter as by the saide Lres Patent more playnlie yt doth and maye appeare And forasmoche as it is nowe doubtefull where and howe farre the aunceynte boundes and lymitts of the lybties of the saide Cytie doth extende and for lacke of certen knowledge and lymittacon thereof ryseth not onely at dyvers tymes varyaunce betweene the officers of the sayde Countye of the sayde Citie of Exceter and the sheriffe and the officers of the sayde Countye of Devon and the Byshoppe of Exceter and the Dean and Chapiter of the Cathedrall Churche of Saynte Peter of Exceter and their Mynysters for and concernynge the servynge and executinge of processe within certain places surmised by the sayde Mayor Bayliffs and Comynaltie of the sayde Countye of the sayde Citie of Exceter to be within the lymitts and boundes of the saide Countye of the saide Citie & denyed by the sayde Sheriffe of the sayde Countye of Devon and the sayde Byshoppe Deane and Chapiter and their Officers to be within anye of the Boundes of the saide Countye of the saide Citie but also th. Inhabitants of divers Houses and Habitations

being sett and buylded in certain places within the sayde Cytie and Suburbes of the same and in the confyne and border of bothe the sayde Countyes callinge and naminge themselves for the Maintenance of their unthriftie rule which they kepe there some tyme when for there purpose yt so best serveth to be von of the sayd Countyes and some tyme of the other and by occasion thereof in and to these Howses resorte (as it were to a Den and refuge for unthrifties) Innumorab sortes of dyvers Carders Nyghte Watchers Vagabonds Theves Bawdes Hores and suche other yvell and lewde psons whiche their doo lorke abyde and escape unpunyshed by reason that the lymitts of the sayde Countye of the sayde Citie are unknowne not onely to the great Corrupcon of prentyses Servaunts and Children broughte uppe within the sayde Citie to the great anoyance of the sayde Citie and of the Inhabitants of the same.—But also to the great Inquietacon and disturbance of other Quarters thereabout which is to the greate mayntenance boldenynge and increase of theves robbers harlotts bawdes and sundrye Vagaboundes which things within shorte tyme will be a greate Cause of rewin and decaye of your gracys sayde Citie and to the Oppression and greate disquietinge of the sayde Citie and the whole Countreye thereaboute yf remedye be not provided For Reformacyon whereof yf may please youre mooste excellent Majesty wt. and by the assent of Lordes Squall and Temporall and the Commons in this present Parlyment assembled and by the Authoritie of the same that the boundes and lymitts hereafter envewing may be hadde reputed and taken for the undoughted lymitts devysyon and boundes betwene the sayde Countye of the sayde Citie of Exceter taken for no parte nor parcell of the sayde Countye of Devon. but clearlye seperated from the sayde County of Devon evermore withowte questyon color. doughte or ambyguytie which boundes of the sayde Countye of the sayde Citie as well within the walles of the sayde Citie as withoute shall be and begynne as hereafter followeth *that is to saye ffirste* at and from the Estegate of the sayde Citie together with all the wholle precynte and Circuyte of the Parrishe off Saynte Sydwell withoute the sayde Estegate and with all the Inhabitaunts and soyle of the same Parishe unto the Sowthegate of the same Citie with all the wholle Circuyte and preyncte of the Parrishe of the Trynytie there and with all the Inhabitaunts and soyle of the same Parrishe withoute the sayde Southegate and at and from the sayde Southegate with the whole Cyrcuyte and Precynte of the sayde wholle Parrishe of the Trynytie aforesayde unto the Westegate of the sayde Cytie together with all the whole Circuyts and p'cinte of the Parrishes of Saynte Edmondes and Saynte Marye Stappes unto the greate Ryver of Exe and with all the Inhabitaunts and Soyle within the sayde Parrishes unto the grete River of Exe and withoute the sayde Westgate and at and from the said Westgate with the

Cyrcuyte of the saide wholle Parrishes of Saynte Edmondes and Saynte Mary Stappes as before is sayde unto the Northegate of the sayde Citie together with the Cyrcuyte and precynte of the whole Parrishe of Saynte David called Saynte David is Downe without the Northegate of the sayde Citie and with all the Inhabitaunts and Soile within the sayde Parrishe of Saynte David is Downe and at and from the sayde Northegate with the Cyrcuyte and precyncte of the same whole Parrishe of Saynte David is downe unto the Estegate aforesayde,—And that also by the Authoritie aforesaide yt maye be Enacted that all manner of Howses Lands Tenements Possons Grounds and Soyle as well within the Walls of the sayde Citie and Suburbes of the same as also all Howses Lands Tenements Groundes and Soyle sette layinge and beinge within the Parrishes afore lymytted and expressed and every of theym shall be at all tyme and tymes from henseforthe taken accepted reputed knowne and accompted to be parcell of and within the sayde Countye of the sayde Citie of Exceter and to be no parte nor parcell of the sayde Countye of Devon and that yt may be fferder enacted by the Authoritie aforesayde that as well the Sheriffe of the sayde Countye of the sayde Citie of Exceter for the tyme being his Deputies and Mynisters as also the Officers and Mynisters of the sayde Mayor Bayliffe and Constable of the sayde Citie of Exceter and every of them for the Tyme beinge shall and may lawfullye at all tyme and tymes from hensforthe execute and serve within the sayde Countye of the sayde Citie of Exceter all and all manner of Wryttes Precepts and Proceses to them or any of them directed or delyvered as well from the Kings Majesty his heirs or Successors or from any of his Justices as also from the sayde Mayor Bayliffs and Comynalties or their successors or any other their Officers or any of them in suche manner and forme as the sheriffs of the sayde Countye of Devon Justices of Peace or other the Kinges Officers or Mynisters of the sayde Countye of Devon myght have lawfully done before the makynge of this Acte and Statute. And furder to doo and execute all and everye other lawfull Acte and Thinge within the sayde Countye of the sayde Citye of Exceter in as ample and large manner as the Sherriffe of the sayde Countye of Devon Justices of Peace or other the Kinges Officers or Mynisters of the said Countye of Devon might have lawfullye doon before the makynge of this Acte. *Provided allwayes* that the Castell commonly called the Castell of Exceter and the Soyle of the same beinge within the Walles of the saide Castell and allso the Common Gayle of the sayde Countye of Devon nye adjoininge to the said Castell and the Mansyon House of the same Gayle with all such and singler other Howses and Buyldings belonging to the same shall not be accepted or taken to be within the Citye of Exceter nor of any thereoff but shall be at all accepted reputed adjudged and

demyd to be within and parcell of the sayde Countye of Devon any thing in this Acte mencyoned resyted or expressed to the contrarye notwithstondinge. *Provided* also that this Acte nor any thinge therein conteyned shall in any wise extend or be prejudicyall or hurtfull to the Kinge his Heires or Successorors or to the Ryghte Noble Prince Edward Duke of Somsett or to any of his Heires or to the sayde Bysshoppe of Exceter or his Successoures the Deane and Chapiter of Exceter and their Successoures or to any of theym or to any other Persone or Persones their Heires or Successoures for or concerninge any Liberties Privilegs Courtes Leetes Fraunchises Profitts prior to any Proces Judgment and Ejectmentes to bee had in any Action or Sute now depending or concerning the Limitts and Boundes aforesayde excepted by this Acte to bee off the sayde Countye of the Citie of Exceter but that they and everye of them shall and may lawfullye have hold use take exercise and enioye all and syngler suche liberties pvilegs Courtes Leetes Fraunchises Proffitts and all other Commodities and everye of them whatsoever in suche lyke manner fourme and Condicon as they or any of them lawfully had helde occupied or enioyed the same or any of them *before the makinge of this Acte, and in such maner and fourme as if this Acte had never been made any thinge before in this Acte to the contrarye notwithstandinge.* Provided allwayes and beyt furder Enacted that as well all and singler Covenants Graunts Coposycons Agreements Recognisances and Bonds Obligatory had made or knowledged by the Mayor Bayliffs and Comaltie of the sayde Citie of Exceter or any of them unto the Byshoppe Deane and Chapiter of the Cathedral Churche of Exceter or any of them as also all and singler such Covenants Graunts Coposicons Agreements Recognisaunces and Bonds Obligatorie had made or knowledged by the sayde Bysshoppe Deane and Chapiter or any of them to the sayde Mayor Bayliffs and Comaltie or any of them for or concerninge any other thynge or thyngs then is expressed or mencyoned in this Acte shall stande and be to all Intents and Purposes in effecte force and strengeth as they weare before the makynge of this Acte and as thoughe this Acte had never been had or made any thing conteyned in this Acte to the contrarye in anywise notwithstondinge.

GEORGE ROSE, Cler. Parliamenter.

Examined with the Original Record at the Parliament-Office this 5th day of Oct. 1799 by us

FENWICK WILLIAM FEARY,
J. PACEY.

FINIS.

Norton, Printer, 247, High-Street, Exeter.